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EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

LAWYERS ARE RATS

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'Thanks to Bettman's wholesale slaughter, I am growing more and more fond of junior hockey'

THE WAR AT HOME

HOW REPRESENTING and remaining to finally read mainstream press cooling the value of remaining in Afghanistan because we are making "reasonable progress" ("Winning in Afghanistan," *National*, July 33), I applaud Maclean's for providing balanced coverage of Canada's success efforts to rebuild this country and to denigrate the very real threat to not only Afghanistan, but also our security here at home.

Hilary Andrew, Coquitlam, Ont.

SENSE WRITER Stan M. Maloney's portrayal of Canadian successes in Afghanistan was moving. This is not something I hear about often. That there are Afghan-Canadians for us working together is great news. Thank you for throwing some balance into the mix. Sarah Flewter, Sioux Lookout, Ont.

THE COVERLINE "Reason for hope" prompts me, on the basis of some acquaintance with the history of Afghanistan and the previous attempts by the British and the Russians to conquer and/or pacify that collection of warring tribes, to offer the following definition: optimism—a mental aberration that causes people to perceive a better living in a thick cloud of ungratified desire.

Audrey Derohawitz, Guelph, Ont.

HOW COULD I have not been described as an enemy from the front, not a diplomat, I started reading the piece, believing it was a balanced report from a seasoned journalist. Instead, I read in your editorial ("Marking our victories in Afghanistan," from the *Editor's*, July 33) that your writer is a professor from the Royal Military College in Kingston, Ont., about one who has been in Afghanistan five times since 2001. In this story, Maloney goes slightly personal at times. What I would like to see is a fully objective discussion of Canada's precise objectives for this military action and our Armed Forces' success (that is, in meeting those objectives).

Cynthia Dow, Hazelton, B.C.

IT IS HIGH TIME that the people of Afghanistan took control of their own destiny. Yes, the entire world must offer help. This is a moral obligation on the part of all respectable nations. But the help has to be in the form of health care, education, and infra-

structure to guarantee a clean water supply, police security and fundamental human rights. When the citizenry is empowered by knowledge and professional techniques, then our job will be done and we can get out.

Cliff Bussman, Winnipeg

SOLDIERING ON

I CANNOT FAULT your columnist Andrew Porter's logic in his article about the mission in Afghanistan ("Support the troops, but also do what's right by troops," *Opinion*, July 21). If you want to win, you must go all in. Soldiering does not win a war right in their employ.



ment. They will do their utmost despite the injuries of the government or the nation. The last thing they need, in light of their sacrifices, is ungratefulness.

Adam Gravel, Ottawa

IS POTTER SAYING that a critic is not free to challenge government decisions? The "Support our troops" slogan (borrowed from the U.S.) implies we must support the war or be complicit in the deaths of our soldiers. This is both dishonest and insulting. If Porter wants to find a better example of hypocrisy, he might look south of the border where a majority of Congress and the people support our troops, but want them out of Iraq.

Brian H. Preston, St. Catharines, Ont.

I RESIST the theme of this article. I respect our troops and the work they are now to do. I am concerned about their safety and wish

them a healthy return to Canada. As a taxpayer, I am willing to spend whatever it takes to make their efforts safer and successful. I do not support the war in Afghanistan. Going there was a political decision made to appease our American neighbors. It had little to do with the well-being of the people of Afghanistan. Since it sounds like the failure of the war in Vietnam, I am deeply saddened by our Prime Minister's determination to carry on. Am I a hypocrite? I don't think so. (The *Star*, Oct. 14/2011).

RUMBLINGS ON FESCHUK

SCOTT FESCHUK'S conversations on a variety of subjects never fail to bring a smile to my face, and occasionally a guffaw of laughter. However, his take on the new drug Ali had me rolling with laughter and brought tears to the eyes of everyone I showed it to ("I'd love to lose weight and dread with one pill," *Comment*, July 9). Early subjects always surprise people. This article was a gem.

Richard Wyford, Neuston Bay, B.C.

I NORMALLY ENJOY Scott Feschuk's wry, if sometimes snide, columns. I was highly offended, however, to find that Feschuk had included insensitivity as a mock list of the drug Ali's potential side effects. "Insensitivity is not an unpleasant bodily affliction, it is a gender identity. Would this treatment be acceptable (or preferable) if it had referred, instead, to homosexuality?"

Elise Maltes, London, Ont.

HOCKEY PEEVES

THANK YOU for your article about the NHL and the attempts to bring a pro-hockey team from the United States to Canada ("Shut out of the NHL," *Newsweek*, July 23). It seems to me that NHL commissioner Gary Bettman is more interested in the sales of jerseys and trade cards than the rich history of the game. I'll hold on to my love of NHL, but I'm growing more and more fond of junior hockey thanks to Bettman's wholesale slaughter of a great sport.

Ken Moffatt, Calgary

THE NHL has been taken over lock, stock and barrel by Americans, and until Gary Bettman is shown the door, a Canadian will never be allowed to buy a team and bring it home.

Rickie Beilman, Victoria



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SHIFT.

Highs in the 30s, and the outlook's cloudy



ANDREW POTTER

It is by now clear that Stephen Harper is never going to win a majority government. The only question, then, is what is to become of the Conservative party in Canada.

Since the election in May 2006, Harper's polling numbers have bounced around a bit, but always within a fairly narrow band in the mid-30s. At worst the Conservatives are down around 31 per cent, in a dead heat with Stéphane Dion and the Liberals. At best, they're up at 37 per cent, more or less where they were on election day. Either way, the party is spinning its wheels helplessly stuck in the snowdrifts of minority government.

Overall, it is a much blasier outlook than in the months after the election, when the Liberals were thoroughly demoralized and many were predicting Harper would be prime minister for as long as he could keep the job. The feeling was that the 2004 seat that the Conservatives had been given were like a set of parliamentary training wheels, and that once they had found their balance and gained the trust of the country they would be rewarded with a proper governing majority.

It hasn't quite worked out that way, in part thanks to various missteps left by the previous premiers. Many Canadians are upset that *Nipawassan* is no longer the happy place and reconstruction the Liberals sold us on, while the growing glacial pace on climate change has earned Liberal baronade on Kyoto into a much bigger problem. To make things even more so for the Liberals, though Harper's cabinet is full of featherweights, and it probably doesn't help that the min is a supply control freak who isn't as good at taking a punch as he likes to pretend.

The emerging wisdom is that Stephen Harper's future is off a snap winter election after Dion's surprise leadership victory was

a major blunder, but that's just the genius of counterfactual hindsight. Yes, Dion was weak and the Liberals were broke and fractious, but elections—especially winter elections—are very unpredictable animals. Sensory input's the problem either. The plan of building support simply by being in power and getting Canadians used to a Conservative government was sensible, especially when paired with the governing as permanent campaign model the Tories have used to support from the Republicans in the United States. No, the central problem for the Conservatives is basic arithmetic.

In the United States, the combination of neo-cons, religious conservatives, and neo-government libertarians is able to deliver



It doesn't help that Harper's a snippy control freak who isn't very good at taking a punch

fairly regular electoral victories. Karl Rove's fantasy of establishing a "permanent Republican majority" never came to pass, but the current ideologically original coalition is surprisingly stable. Sure, there is a warning to see some defections over Iraq, but what is amazing is not that some Republicans are starting to balk, but that so many are still behind the president even though his approval ratings are trending horrific lows.

Here in Canada, we lived through our own Rovean nightmare, except we called it "Gridlock"—the idea that the Liberals would be in power forever. Canadian conservatives are a casually defeatist bunch (thanks to the Tory strand of their DNA), but the prospect of endless Liberal hegemony was a genuine

worry. Their fear was not that the Liberals had managed to construct any sort of ideological consensus, a "permanent Liberal majority." Rather, it was that the vote splitting caused by the fragmentary state of conservatism in Canada would hand Liberal leaders an unalloyed succession of majority governments by default.

When Jean Charest twice won over 40 per cent of the popular vote, the national vote went away for right wing politicians in Canada nowhere near that large. That is why every conservative government, having run the numbers, eventually decides that the route to a majority government leads through Quebec: not useless, but the only game in town, a hostage, handing the whole coalition over to the crutches of zero-sum logic. The more a conservative leader works to please his core supporters in the West, the more he loses in Quebec and parts of the East. The more he works to please Quebec, the more he loses in the West and parts of Ontario.

It is all well and good to build a political coalition out of a shared hatred of Ottawa, but as a principle for governing and wielding federal power it is a touch unimpressive. At the very least it does not win you many votes in the province of Ontario, where the citizens still possess the belief that the federal government exists for a reason.

It is obvious that Stephen Harper would make Ottawa if he could get away with it. Since he can't do that, he would probably be satisfied running the federal government along principled conservative lines. Unfortunately, there just are not enough people who like these principles. And so he finds himself looking for a majority by assembling a sort of hodge-podge Liberalism—a loosey combination of vote-buying, pork-barreling, corporate welfare and half-assed economic man-

agement, with everything else thrown through the lens of how it will play in Quebec.

It is no wonder, then, that the ramblings of disorientation on the right keep getting louder. A new party made up of old Reformers and fiscal conservatives will be bidding candidates in the upcoming Ontario election, and the argument is pleasing to eventually create a national alternative to the Conservatives. Of course that will lead us back to Gridlock, but for many small conservatives, the reply, increasingly, is "so what?" After all, if we are going to have Liberal policies, then we might as well let the Liberals be in charge. ■

ON THE WEB: For more Andrew Potter visit his blog at www.mediocrity.com/andrewpotter

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STYLING: JEFFREY TAYLOR



WHO ARE THE ONES ON DRUGS?

While millions of spectators line the route of the 94th Tour de France to watch the world's top riders, some cyclists have appeared in costume, often stepping into the actual race. One regular since 1983 is Bob Seitz, a late teenager, who dresses in a devil's costume and is called "Café". This year, according to the Guardian, there have been four sightings, doctors in white coats, as well as appearances by a trio of big springs.

1. Discovery Channel team rider Alberto Contador (left) with Rabobank team rider Michael Rasmussen is urged on by a fan
2. Bob Seitz, a.k.a. El Diablo, encourages Alessandro Vincoletto, Astoria team leader
3. Contador and Rasmussen cycle past a fan wrapped in the U.S. flag
4. A fan with wings runs beside an Astoria rider
5. Contador and Rasmussen pass a spectator dressed as a chicken
6. Vincoletto on his winning ride of the 12th stage. His team, Astoria, withdrew Tuesday after he tested positive for a blood transfusion
7. Sponsored by Kersh's company, Astoria was known as Team Bant





'One prominent lawyer told me, "Every lawyer is going to go into the office today and commit fraud." Then he laughed.'

EX-BAY STREET LAWYER PHILIP SLAYTON TALKS TO KATE FILLION ABOUT HOW LAWYERS BECAME GREEDY, UNPRINCIPLED ENABLERS OF THE RICH

Q I'd want to imagine a book about lawyers like Bill Mosley, Susan and Madison in Canada's Legal Profiles 800 (Penguin) is going to be popular with your colleagues. Why did you write it?

A: I have lawyers are going to say, "Come on, he's talking about 15 or 30 members of a profession that has 90,000." But in telling those stories I'm trying to correct general ideas about the moral values of legal practice, the gross inequalities of the regulation of lawyers, the sense of misery that pervades the legal profession.

Q Do you think most of the lawyers you wrote about are at fault, or did the practice of law change them?

A: Why do people end up doing things they shouldn't do? These upbringings, their background? The point is, I don't think their background in the legal profession now that represses people's bad impulses, I don't think that's a generally accepted code of conduct or a vibrant disciplinary system.

This isn't just a Canadian problem, it's there. On my desk there is a editorial from South Africa magazine that begins, "Let's face it, our legal system has effectively collapsed... One of the most obvious reasons is the rule of greed, greed and self-indulgence arrogance that pervades the legal profession." Then there's that gem from the South Coast Morning Post about a client who asked for a breakdown of his legal bill, which included

a charge for "recognizing you in the street, crossing a busy road to talk to you to discuss your affairs, and increasing the need after discovering it was not you."

Q As you point out, in 2004 only 40 per cent of Canadian and Ontario lawyers, whereas two years earlier, 14 per cent said they didn't like people dislike lawyers at all?

A: Yes, I think so. Law students are taught and lawyers subsequently believe that it is not their job to pass judgment on their clients as people, or to pass judgment on what their clients want to do. Lawyers are enablers. They are there to try to do what their clients want, and in so doing you paid handsomely for it. The whole question of the evolution behind the rules of the legal system is not on the whole of good intent to law schools or the legal profession. And there's an additional point. Lawyers are taught to manipulate the rules in favour of their clients. If you're a masterful user of rules, then you can't respect the rules in fact or believe that they incorporate important values.

Q How has the legal profession changed in Canada over the past few decades?

A: In any general sense, it has become a business, insulated in profits, not interested in making judgments, not interested in protecting people to poor people or even middle-class people. The old ideas that lawyers have something to do with justice and fairness, and are part of an important system that provides a stable, safe, law-abiding soc-

ety—here, in the extent that you can generate wealth, have lost by members of the legal profession.

Q You taught law for 12 years, both at McGill and the University of Western Ontario, where you were the dean of law. Is there something about legal training that teaches lawyers to stand apart?

A: Yes, I think so. Law students are taught and lawyers subsequently believe that it is not their job to pass judgment on their clients as people, or to pass judgment on what their clients want to do. Lawyers are enablers. They are there to try to do what their clients want, and in so doing you paid handsomely for it. The whole question of the evolution behind the rules of the legal system is not on the whole of good intent to law schools or the legal profession. And there's an additional point. Lawyers are taught to manipulate the rules in favour of their clients. If you're a masterful user of rules, then you can't respect the rules in fact or believe that they incorporate important values.

Q How does that kind of view into their profession fit?

A: If you just ask the answer to that, except to say that I think it does. There are studies about the moral values of lawyers, indicating that there's a higher divorce rate among members of the legal profession, and that may be true. The reason, I think, is that when you come home from the office, you don't become a different person. You don't shed all the ways of doing things and thinking

about things that preoccupy you during the day (I can imagine) a wife making moral rule and a husband cross-examining her as though she's on the witness stand. "What evidence do you have to support the fact that there's something wrong with the furnace?"

Q The first teaching in practice at a big Toronto law firm. Did your time in the classroom prepare you?

A: Not at all. The world of the law school and the world of the big downtown law firm are two very different worlds.

Q What kind of ethical dilemmas does the average lawyer face?

A: The average lawyer in a big firm position faces the requirement to put aside whatever his/her values, principles and values he may personally subscribe

A to and concentrate on making it possible for clients to do what they want to do. No client comes into lawyer's office and wants to have a discussion about whether it's a good thing or socially desirable to do this, that, or the other. And they'll hire another lawyer if you try to have that discussion.

Q There's a big incentive for lawyers to put their bill, and then?

A: Yes, and it's common practice. It's only around up. It's easy to reflect on what you're doing during the day and say you're working for seven hours rather than six.

Q What about the idea of you get a lawyer's bill and the number of hours seems ridiculous?

A: The first thing you can do is refuse to pay it. People usually do challenge bills, and often some kind of accommodation will be reached. Ultimately, you can take your bill to an officer of the court who will adjudicate on the fairness of it. But I think there always will be a tendency to pad bills, and that's because of the pressures lawyers are under to generate revenue for their firms and themselves. In big firms, there's an average number of billable hours a year that people have to reach, about 1,800 hours. If you're consistently shy of that, you're going to get into difficulty.

Q Do lawyers left behind after being accused themselves?

A: Any lawyer you ask will say, "We don't do that." First of all, you can get disbarred. And secondly, it might negatively be a criminal offence, a fraudulent activity. But there's a general recognition that it happens very rarely. I remember court standing on a street corner with a prosecutor. The lawyer in case on the morning, and he said, "Only lawyers in this profession is going to go this far after they've been accused." Then they laughed. Another lawyer told me he was in favour of what he called "portal-to-portal

billings": he was in the office from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and figured that one way or another he had to bill 10 hours, which of course doesn't allow much time for bathroom breaks, or lunch, or doing something pro bono, or even just out the window. There are a number of ways you can pad bills, but over time, significantly reducing your billable hours. It's a large underground problem.

Q Did you go or put your bill?

A: My carefully considered answer is that I am part of the legal culture of the times and I did what I deserved.

Q Lawyers are no longer at the top of the socio-economic ladder. They're middle-class, average incomes. Does that surprise anyone?

A: I think it does, there's a kind of economic voyeurism that takes place and generates a lot of discontent. Of course, the legal profession is big, and there are people in Canada who make \$1 million a year and there are also people just scraping by. But looking at the top end, many successful lawyers at big firms make more money people would regard as a pretty handsome living, yet they look at their clients and think, "They're making more money than I am." And then perhaps they'll add, "And they're doing it because of all the clever stuff I bring to them." It's not fair?

Q You quote a former law clerk in a U.S. Supreme Court justice as saying that lawyers neglect "dignity, accuracy, integrity, honesty, and other values and values, often compromise and interpersonal civility at whatever cost."

A: And what are the self-adjusted ones?

Q Why are lawyers in debt?

A: If you practice law you're plunged into

all of them. You come home in the end of the day and say, "Why did I bother doing that? What I've really done is make my people a little bit richer, maybe, but as a result of that I can read the big bill." This is not a good way to spend your life. After you get over the initial stages of this high-stakes environment, you're left with the feeling that this is a profession in which you should find something more worthwhile to do.

Q Why did most of your students go into law?

A: A lot of people didn't like lawyers and would be horrified if their child came home and said, "I want to be a lawyer." But it is a profession, and one with the potential of providing a significant income. It gives its members a certain power, the power of knowing something that other people don't know. And there is a kind of glamour associated with it. Look at all the television programs that deal with the law—people are fascinated with this profession, even though they're deeply suspicious of lawyers. And I think on many counts, certainly this was true in my case, people were into law because they couldn't think of anything else to do.

Q Is there something else you should have done?

A: Oh, yes, but I'm not going to tell you. I find myself increasingly in the role of critic of the legal profession, but I've spent my life as a lawyer. I went to law school in 1966. I've been in the legal profession ever since. I've been a partner in a law firm for 20 years, it gives me no pleasure at the end of it all to look back and say, "Oh God, the worst I did was to spend my time in law."

Q Is this your profession?

A: [Laughs] No. Do I think it will lead to

'If you're taught how to manipulate rules, you lose respect for them and that leads to a kind of arrogance: I'm bigger than the rules'

what it is by its nature a highly competitive, highly stressful environment that tends to put most of your time as the expense of things that most people think long-term would make life worth living, such as spending time with family, or reading a book.

Q You mention that making a good grade, like banking or even just thinking.

A: No doubt. As I think there's more to it for lawyers than simply tests. If you're a doctor, you may have a hell of a day, but a doctor you can be comforted by the idea that in some small way you improved the general state of society. I don't think you can believe that if you're a lawyer. I haven't to add that legal practice is very diverse, and there are lots of different kinds of people practicing law, and this is not true of all of them. But it's true of

some kind of significant reform of the legal profession? Of course not. It's beyond any one person's ability to do that. Do I think some kind of significant rethinking of the profession is in order? Yes, but I do.

Q So many of the lawyers you write about sound up reading from their clients or talking about their firms, but great wasn't always the money, was it?

A: No. I no longer get interested in this whole subject in 1969 or 1999, when I was a junior partner at B.H. Blais, Cawthra & Goyden. One of those partners, partner, Bob Davidson, a naturally if not intentionally respected lawyer making lots of money, was suddenly found to have had his hand in the bill. That was a stunning fact in itself, but here's the thing that puzzled me most of all: the scenario



SOME 500,000 skilled workers languish in the backlog for permanent residency. Many already work in high-demand professions.

WORTH WAITING FOR?

Canada's immigration backlog is punishing the skilled workers we need most

BY JAY ROBERTS • Sixteen years, Dr. Nafiz Edwards, along with his wife, Colleen, and three kids, immigrated from South Africa to Abbotsford, B.C. Dr. Edwards was permitted to work as a family physician in nearby Mission, a town facing a doctor shortage. After a year, the South Africans finally applied for permanent residency and sent their application to Canada's Citizenship General office in Belleville, N.Y., the main processing center for in-Canada PR applications. "They told us it would be a 66-week wait," says Colleen. "We didn't hear from them until 2004, when we were told to go for medical exams."

Then they waited. Another 12 months went by with no correspondence from Citizenship and Immigration Canada. By now, the medicals had expired. "We'd spent about \$30,000 on work permit renewals, medicals, lawyer fees, never knowing if this would come to an end," says Colleen. Each year, their three kids, all provincial-level tennis players, had to drop out of tournaments because they didn't have permanent residency. "If Canada isn't going to process us," she says, "at least

let us know so we can move on and go somewhere else."

After a 33-month silence, the Edwards had begun to lose hope on waiting in Canada. "We didn't know why we were waiting because Immigration wouldn't tell us," says Colleen.

"So we guessed it had to do with Nafiz's (unscripted) military service." CIC had come under fire after letting in war criminal Dr. Jack Baftina, a former deported orthopedic surgeon in North Bayfield, Ont. "Nafiz served one year as a doctor in an army hospital, a year being a gun—in France goes to CIC five years ago," explains Colleen.

The Edwards were opposed to PR status almost as if by fate a few months ago, after a brief letter they wrote about their situation was published in a newspaper. That their plight is far from unusual. Of the 500,000 applications waiting in Canada's PR-application backlog, an estimated 190,000 are skilled workers whose lives have had work experience within the past 30 years on an occupation—such as construction or nursing—often been deemed an area of need by the Canadian government. Many of them already work in Canada. They pay taxes, can't vote, and depending on their status, may not be entitled to provincial health coverage. "Federal skilled worker applications are taking four years [to process]," says Teren to-based immigration

lawyer Moe Berger. "So if it's Canada's aim to attract the best and brightest, well, they aren't going to wait around." Half of all skilled worker applications take 35 months to be processed—almost five years. Some take as long as 74 months.

If there's one portfolio the government has consistently bungled, it's immigration. While the backlog is nothing new, it has only grown since the Harper government took power, even though the Conservatives campaigned on a promise to fix the wait. Canada has the fastest growing population among G8 countries, adding 1.6 million people since 2001. With domestic births falling at a third of the number, Statistics Canada estimates future population growth will depend solely on immigration by 2030. But when obviously qualified candidates are being held up, the country is poised to lose its status as a destination of choice.

"People are going up on Canada," says Raj Sharma, a former CIC officer who now practices immigration law in Calgary. "I've got a client from the U.K. who came here twenty-one years ago. He moved his career and is now working in the U.S. on a permit while he waits for his PR application to be processed. He's obviously qualified to live and work in Canada." Meanwhile, he notes, his doctor still ages past his prime.

Nobody at CIC is prepared to talk publicly about the backlog or about specific cases. If such a backlog existed in other federal departments, for instance, the names would be represented and the system fixed. Instead, we've seen two federal immigration ministers come and go within the past two years, both promising to fix the backlog. "We're not in the business of customer service," said one immigration top officer.

Perhaps not, but it doesn't serve Canada's immigration goals either. Partly, it's a reflection of priorities and inadequate resources, but applications also get held up due to processing mistakes and misleading general advice. Debra Pinto came to Montreal in 1999 from Washington to study sociology at McGill University. She received her master's from Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Ont., where she met her spouse. After graduation, she had three months to find a job in her field (media and sociology), so instead of applying through the economic stream, she chose the family sponsorship program. Her application was delayed "because CIC questioned my relationship with my spouse, who's 37 years older," says Pinto. "I sent them a picture from our wedding day and a copy of our vows. It also has a box full of wedding photos sitting in my living room, but Immigration isn't interested in it."

Meanwhile, her application sits in Sudbury. "They have one immigration officer serving northern Ontario, so the backlog of appli-



cations is especially slow moving," says Pinto. "In October, I was told there were 25 cases in front of mine, and that the officer processes about two a day." Pinto closed in 30 days later and was told there were still 20 cases in front of hers. Frustrated, she started a blog about her immigration dispute, within days of her last post, her phone rang. "It was a woman from CIC. She said she was in a small office that dealt with special cases like mine. A week later, my application was and I was back up and I was in line."

In the past few years, standard processing times have actually doubled, say some observ-

ers. "The government should be fast-tracking applications where there's an economic advantage to Canada," says Peter Ferreira, an immigration consultant in Toronto who focuses mainly on skilled workers and families coming to Canada from Portugal. Ferreira estimates one-third of his clients—mostly trained laborers who work in the construction industry—simply give up.

Navigating the system is as snail as a tortoise. One applicant who applied for PR through the skilled worker class in 2004, while she was studying computer science, failed by two points. "When you apply, you can either take a standardized English test or write a letter that shows your language skills," she explains, "in perfect spoken English." Because

DOCTORS CAN WAIT YEARS FOR PR STATUS. MANY CONSTRUCTION WORKERS DON'T BOTHER APPLYING.



Ailton, who has a degree in industrial design, has had a series of work permits and spent \$35,000 on fees, but no PR. (Left) Peter Ferreira.

she wrote a letter instead of taking the test, she was only awarded 70 per cent of the points it allowed for language. "If I'd known this," she says, "I would have gladly written the test."

But part of the problem is that the points system doesn't always reflect Canada's needs. Canada takes in about 105,000 skilled workers a year. And of that number, only about 100,000 will qualify for permanent residency under the federal points system, says Ferreira. "Even if you give points for a job offer, they won't get enough points for education as their English isn't good enough."

There's clearly a need for construction workers, for instance. In 2006, the Conservatives reported about 400 undocumented

Portuguese construction workers and their families from Toronto, roughly 80 per cent have returned home on temporary work permits, says Ferreira, which makes him wonder why send them packing in the first place? "I guess the government realized how badly we need these people, but was enough to grant them PR—just to build our communities."

Ferreira has one client who may get that status. Antonio (a pseudonym), a construction worker with a university degree in industrial design who speaks Portuguese, English, German and Spanish and has been employed in Canada on several work permits for five years. His application is currently in Belleville under the skilled worker category. "The government hasn't responded to me," he protested for doing everything "by the book," he says, "and yet I still have to wait another two years or more." His estimate: he's spent close to

\$10,000 on work permits, medicals, lawyer fees and so on. "I've spent so much time getting through barriers I sometimes wonder if it's worth it," he says. "I owned a car and a house in Europe, and now I'm staying in an apartment in Toronto and taking the bus."

Many of Antonio's co-workers don't bother to apply for permanent residence, they simply renew their work permits and hope for the best. "There's mass exploitation," says Antonio. "The boss wants you come home, doesn't pay you for your time," he says. "It's very common." Once, a former employer demanded Antonio hand over \$10,000. Another boss threatened him after he complained about the employer cheating during. "I told him I didn't approve and he told me if I said anything, he'd have me deported."

Unfortunately, there is no transitional program for construction workers—or doctors or other professionals. CIC boasts only one such program, and that is reserved for live-in caregivers for children or the elderly. These workers have three years to complete 24 months of authorized work, after which they can apply for PR. The program has as problem—most employers have to obtain several work permits because of changes in circumstances (the employer dies, the kids go to school), and the whole process can take years. Still, it's not a coin.

In the absence of a transitional program, the construction industry banded together a few years ago and composed a "interim plan of underservicing" to try to fill the pool of 200,000-add undocumented rural construction workers in Canada and "let them get their rights fixed and accounted for," says Carlos Pineda, a spokesperson for the Carpenters Union Local 27 in Toronto. "We wanted an in-Canada committee class where people who are already here working can transition to apply for PR after two years if they keep clean and pay their taxes—not amnesty, but regularization."



"The plan was put forward but died in the shuffle of governments. Instead of dealing with the thousands of skilled workers with out documentation already working in Canada, Budget 2007 promotes immigration to the Temporary Foreign Worker Program. Employers can hire a temporary foreign worker once the employer proves the Canadian labour pool is exhausted, so long as they pay fair wages. The permit is good for two years. Since 1996, the number of TFWs has doubled in Canada to 145,071 in 2006, especially in areas such as Alberta, where the oil and gas industry's growth has caused a dire labour shortage. Since 2003, the TFW population in Alberta alone has risen more than

tripled, to about 22,000. "We're making it faster and easier for Canadian employers to meet their labour force needs," said Human Resources Minister Mani Singh.

But what began as a temporary measure has turned into a long-term immigration issue with an impermanent, unstable population. "Temporary workers are tied to one employer and a geographic area, which means [they] have no mobility," says Nazim Akbari, a professor of policy studies at Queen's University in Kingston, Ont., who has worked at senior levels in the federal and Ontario governments for 25 years, including eight years as a deputy minister of citizenship

MANAGER Martin Selberg, would be immigrants at an immigration in Ontario.



then his company negotiated him through B.C. TFWP. He would have received his landed papers within a year—much faster than if he'd gone through the federal points system—"but they lost my application," he says. He re-applied and six months later he officially landed.

Ontario is the last province to introduce a TFWP. Ontario immigration minister Mike

Colle unveiled a pilot program in May with visas for about 500 people (green card holders and others). "That is a drop in the bucket," says

Perrins. "It will be an issue before it affects the skills shortage." It also cost around \$10,000 to apply for the program. "Do you think someone applying from Mexico has \$10,000 lying around?" asks Sherris.

In the long term, the success of these programs will exacerbate the problems in the PR system. Permanent points to Australia, a country that, only a few years ago, had about 70,000 TFWs. "Now they have more than 600,000, and there's next to nothing in the way of training or apprenticeship programs in other words. Being in the temple, shut out the residents. Relying on temporary workers doesn't build long-term immigration. It creates a class of over-qualified with no long-term status. As for those 500,000 people already growing frustrated in the backlog of permanent resident applications, they may now wait even longer."

A better solution may lie in the Provincial Nominee Program. Each province can issue certificates to a certain number of candidates who are in Canada on work permits. Some provinces, like Manitoba's, have a

population-building aspect. "We're bringing in about 6,000 people a year," says Marty Dolan, who provides paralegal services for immigrants and sits on Manitoba's PNP advisory committee. Manitoba's population grew last year as a result of the program was 6,600. "Manitoba and Saskatchewan are losing people to the great vacuum cleaner of the West," says Dolan. "We need people to come here, work, and stay, not leave after their parents expire." Alberta's population, too, continues to grow thanks to its provincial program, the province is aiming to bring in 2,500 people this year, a significant jump from the 100 permanent Albertans approved in 2003, the pilot year.

PNPs expedite processing times; the province has already done all the front-end work, leaving the back-end checks and medicals to the federal government. Software engineer Anand Prasad came to Canada from Singapore in 2005 after accepting a job offer from a company in B.C. He originally applied for PR through Singapore, but



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TAKE A CHILL PILL

The mayor's latest plan to fix Vancouver's drug problem draws fire

BY NANCY MACDONALD • It's *Wollay Wednesday* in Vancouver's grim downtown eastside. Here, a 12-year-old Chinese immigrant from Hawaii selling rock cocaine near the intersection of Hastings and Main, is beating, just west of him, Hastings street is buzzing with activity. Forty per cent of the 12,690 residents of the dysfunctional tract rely on the welfare cheques issued on the last Wednesday of the month. For a day, Ben says, everyone has a smile, and a cigarette. Downtown outsiders call it *Marth Cove*.

Canada's Olympic city stretches over 144 square km. But Vancouver's previous two mayors have made and broken their careers in these 10 blocks, where an estimated 5,000 people inject as little drugs daily. Now, with the Games just 2½ years away and real-estate plans already in the works, it's time for Mayor Sam Sullivan, midway through his three-year mandate, to show whether he's earnest, or lucky, or both.

The heat in on Sullivan is a sign a war's with Larry Campbell for Philip Owen. In February 2018, 5,000 athletes and 10,000 media representatives will flood the province for the Winter Games, putting the city under the microscope, wants and all. Some worry the blizzard might be a bad omen, with its blizzards, ghostly alleys and open drug market—all a 10-minute walk from the downtown core and within sight of Galtway, the tourist area—will be the loss of Sullivan, the town that once was the world's most livable city.

But a pre-Olympic cleanup means getting the people who live here off their drugs. Vancouver has a history of tackling the problem with controversial drug strategies. The city's historic core is already home to five needle exchanges, medication maintenance programs, a safe injection site and a program treating people with prescription heroin. Corbett, the municipal city health officer, says within experimental projects called the Chronic Addictions Substitution Treatment.

CAM will legally prescribe medicines (from Xanax to OxyContin) to help chronic drug users kick addiction to heroin, cocaine



THE \$100-MILLION PROGRAM RELIES ON RITALIN, OXYCONTIN



THE DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE would be an Olympic success, the architectural Bullitt

and methamphetamines. The research trial has a tentative \$10 million price tag, and could treat 1,000 addicts over three years, making it the largest of its kind in the world by far. Priority will be given to the city's 500 chronic and "super chronic" offenders, some of whom resist treatment. The goal is to find the best mix of treatment and supervision for these addicts. Sullivan's chief goals: significantly reduce crime and disorder by 2010.

Unlike Insite, Vancouver's safe injection site, as the North American Opioid Use Network Initiative, which gives free heroin to street users, CAST will not require its consent from the federal government, state doctors will be giving away legal drugs, says the provincial health officer, Perry Kendall. If Health Canada will have to approve the oil-based use of methadone. Dilaudid, normally used to treat chronic pain. Should CAST be approved, the trials could start in the fall. "Substitution offers an option too," says Kendall.

del. "We submerge a slow-acting aspirin tablet in plain crystal meth, or cocaine. We keep the roopers busy, and the blood level high enough, so they don't get peaks and dips, or feel the effects of withdrawal."

[illegible]

"That was the origin," says Fugate Outpost attorney David Javay and founder of the Center for Foundation for Drug Policy. For Sullivan's quadriplegic, the most appropriate word "experience." At 20, Sullivan broke his neck trying to do through a friend's water-skiing lesson in Cypress Mountain an Vancouver North Shore. Tailors, forcing an adduct to his cold nurse is like forcing a quadriplegic to walk, they add help managing their "disability," the same way he learned to navigate his "After I broke my neck, my family and friends did not want me to use a wheelchair. This wanted me to be helped, to try harder. I use to sit—for hours—trying to move my legs

People were saying, 'Okay, up down, not down.' There was a sense that the reason I was unable to move was a lack of willpower. Of course I wanted to walk, Sullivan says, but Colin's eyes narrowing, "But abstinence was not a viable option for me."

It took seven years and burning rock beneath his feet to beat his demons. At 26 he was, by his description, a "quail on wheels." He chased off most of his friends. Living in social housing, alone on night, he considered shooting himself—imagined his "blood and brain dripping down the wall." His credits shrank with jobbing him from his depression. He earned a business degree from Simon Fraser University and started six disability-focused foundations. He knows people as keen as a neuter howl for the welfare work.

Oxycodone—which is twice to eight times stronger than morphine—and OxyContin, the highly addictive pain medication also known as *little brown pills*. Under C-FAST, users will not be supervised (as with methadone), opening the door to abuse, say critics.

"What are we going to do when addicts start developing increasing tolerance to drugs and amphetamines? What happens when we can no longer treat for euphoria?" says Dr. Donald Hedges, one of Canada's leading experts in addiction medicine. "CASI uses its studies to support their case, stemming from short-term clinical trials in the U.S. and Australia, yet the majority report 'no positive findings'." Another heavyweight, Dr. Robert Newhouse of Manhattan's International Center for the Advancement of Addiction Treat-

HE HAS TOO MUCH EXPERIENCE WITH THE DRUG FILE FOR SOME

and says they are shocked to hear he is not "some left wing whiner." In 1999, he was elected to Vancouver city council as a member of the conservative coalition.

For some, however, the mayor has a little more much to offer than a little more of the same.

Controversy erupted during the 2003 mayoral election when Sullivan confirmed a longstanding rumor that, as a taxing council member, he bought sex for a young adult and watched as it was consumed in his son. Sullivan said he was trying to understand addiction. For politicians and local media locally dubbed the "sexiness" and "legality" of his actions.



THE PROGRAM would be the largest of its kind in the world.

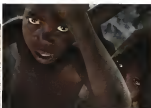
ment, a medical maverick dubbed the Vatican Pope for his 35-year advocacy of the heart replacement, says CAST is "lacking in seriousness," and not geared to the medical well-being of the patient.

"The physician's ethical, moral and legal obligations is first and foremost to the patient," says Newman. "The outcome should not be irrational, politically motivated goals like cutting crime in Vancouver by 10 per cent. That's a totally inappropriate objective. And by the way—there's no way Ritalin will achieve that on 700 patients." Methadone, he says, has been proven effective, unlike CASH "untested and untested" approach. All other efforts should be kept on a very small scale.

In the end, all the arguments over the downtown area's intractable drug problems may be moot. The city core has run out of room. After years of oversight, Vancouver developers are drooling over the downtown eyesore and its 125 undervalued, century-old Bay houses. Frantic pre-Olympic redevelopment is driving up land values and rents in the neighbourhood, threatening to displace thousands of low-income residents—which may

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ets could continue to buoy up the poorest places for years to come. According to the International Monetary Fund, the pace of world economic growth in the past five years exceeds any stretch other than perhaps the early 1970s. Today's expansion, however, is more broadly shared, driven more by emerging economies—not just China and India, but also the likes of Russia and Brazil—than by established ones.

Some aid advocates doubt the usefulness of such sweeping assessments of the global outlook. What does any of it mean to a particular state or village? Of course, local, regional, and

regional dynamism was impossible in Asia. Stories about how the Confucian culture was crucial to economic growth were very popular, until Confucius scholars began to experience very rapid growth," Krumer says. "There was a phrase, 'the Hindu rate of growth,' which was about two percent a year, until India began to grow a lot faster than that."

In other words, the notion that African "culture" somehow stifles prosperity is wrong. "I'm not claiming that Africa is going to take off tomorrow," Krumer adds. "But the fact that Africa has had a terrible period doesn't mean it is going to be back there forever." In a recent paper, "Asian Growth and African Development," he argues that a sort of two-

Could we be on the brink of solving the world's poverty crisis?

UN goals are in reach, and growth is higher than ever
BY JOHN GEDDES

There can be defining days for any body excited by a good, big global empowerment project. Six years ago, a part of the world that stands any real chance of slowing climate change, let alone halting it, looks like a long shot at best. The past 9/11 dream of a unified effort to fight terrorism and fend off threats from unstable states evaporated years ago in the desert heat of Iraq. Even the path to win another round of global conflict reductions, the traditional negotiating venue for economic growth, now looks hopelessly stalled after setbacks in the World Trade Organization's so-called Doha round.

For what? What about the improbably un-

prom sounding Millennium Development Goals? Not everybody remembers that back in 2000, and all the hopes about the dawn of the 21st century, the United Nations member states agreed to a framework for altering the worst misery in the world's poor countries. The UN set eight goals, or MDGs, as the abbreviation for international benchmarks. They range from providing every child with primary education to promoting equality for women. The most ambitious of all, though, was MDG No. 1: cut the proportion of people living in extreme poverty—defined as surviving on less than US\$1 a day—in half by the year 2015.

The big surprise, at least for those skeptical of such undertakings, is that the poverty-eradication target looks very likely to be achieved. An interim report on the MDGs, released by the UN earlier this month to mark the halfway point in the process, said 19.2 percent of people in developing countries lived in extreme poverty in 2004, down from

about 31.6 per cent in 1990, the base line year chosen by the UN. That means hundreds of millions fewer at the bottom of the economic ladder—\$60 million living on less than a buck a day in 2004, down from 1.25 billion in 1990.

Progress on other MDGs is proving harder. Trends suggest, for instance, that the UN's aim of halving the proportion of people living without adequate drinking water and sanitation by 2015 will be missed by 600 million people, and the goal of reducing the proportion of undernourished babies born will be off by 30 million. Those grim figures are reminders that even dramatic reductions in extreme poverty will leave vast populations living in dire conditions. But there's still reason for optimism. As José Antonio Grompone, the UN's undersecretary general for economic and social affairs pointed out on the release of the interim report, "several developing countries are demonstrating that rapid and large-scale progress toward



AS THE UN According to the IMF, the pace of world economic growth in the past five years exceeds any stretch other than the early '70s

MDGs is possible.

Mean of the historic upward it, not surprisingly, coming in second: China and India, along with smaller but growing Asian economies. That leaves sub-Saharan Africa as the major challenge. Yet Africa is by no means the deeply bleak story it seemed only a few years ago, even if all those places from rock stars to Hollywood actors for more and tend to convey a message that nothing could possibly be going right. From that, gains in agricultural and industrial sectors are coming. What's more, and it's important to remember, the common denominator is a successful fight against poverty—access to markets, sound government, and a stable and that supports pillars of long-term economic stability like education and infrastructure.

Just as important is the fact that Africa's export economy—some a big portion of the country that showed up in those "I Am African" ads—has been steadily growing. Strong domestic economies, including oil, has driven up annual economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa to over five per cent for the past three years, the best pace, according to the World Bank, in over three decades.

Beyond Africa, the economic good news is now remarkably widespread, suggesting the world's appetite for all sorts of prod-

IN DEVELOPING NATIONS, 19.2 PER CENT OF PEOPLE LIVE IN EXTREME POVERTY, DOWN FROM 31.6 PER CENT IN 1990

uctual conditions matter. That one of the benefits of the MDG program is the way it globe-spanning scope promotes increasing compare and contrast economies. Although it can be no one-size-fits-all blueprint for development, there are surely lessons that can cross borders and eras. It's important to remember that the common denominator is a successful fight against poverty—access to markets, sound government, and a stable and that supports pillars of long-term economic stability like education and infrastructure.

The obvious starting point in the search for more precise ideas that work are China and India. Economists Michael Krumer, Grompone's professor of developing nations at Harvard University, is one expert who isn't afraid to connect the dots between far-flung places on the map. He warns against imagining there is something about Africa that makes what's happening in China and India could never occur there. That mistake was made before, when many assumed that Western-style eco-

is already on "between economic growth in China and India and population growth in lagging regions, particularly Africa." Of China and India get rich fast enough, he contends, they will become free consumer markets for the rest of the world, from whom export-driven growth based largely on an ample pool of low-income laborers will only Africa.

If that makes sense, like Krumer's advice to Africa is simply to wait as it rises in the new wave of world supply and demand patterns, he doesn't mean it so. Although he does hold that the ultimate best hope for poor countries is to find their place in the global trading economy, he's also from reasonable, and humane, aid spending and trade policy. "Partly it's a matter of supporting people in the short run—10 years, people are dying of MDG need. And Africa, with 54% of the world's 1.48 billion poorest, is the front point for an export-driven new era. These are very long run for us we're talking about," Krumer says. "So begin providing things you need human capital, ports, railroads, telecommunications."

None of that will happen overnight. Not that, for that matter, did Asia's supposed economic "miracle" (it isn't) a sudden thing, says University of Toronto economist Loren Brand. Led editor of forthcoming book *China's Great Economic Transformation*. "People think this enormous growth in Chinese exports has been happening for only the past few years now. But if you go back you see the rate of growth over the past 30 years has been fairly constant. This has been coming for a long time."

Brand traces several stages in China's economic transformation, starting a few years after Mao Zedong's death in 1976. The first decisive move came in rural areas, where

peasants to deeply entrenched patterns that produce Communism. "You have to go back pre-1949," he says. "Agriculture like Zhejiang, the one south of Shanghai, had a long history of peasant proprietorship, and today Zhejiang is again the richest province in China."

Brand's account depicts any simplistic notion that China's rise is the sudden, automatic result of flipping a few market levers, export-oriented policy switches. Instead, he sketches a decades long process, begun in agriculture and accelerated in manufacturing. There's momentum to think better development in Africa's poorest countries and other very low income nations, notably Afghanistan, will require anything less than a similar

Leif Good, who argues that grand designs for lifting up poor countries don't work any better than centralized economic planning in rich ones.

Sometimes the argument is cast in pricing cautions, market-oriented progressivism like Eminent's former director like Jeffrey Sachs, the economist and bestselling author who has emerged in the undisputed guru of the global anti-poverty movement. In reality, though, the debate is far more nuanced. Sachs, the key architect of the MDGs, established his credentials as an advocate of free-market reforms when he was advising countries like Poland and Bolivia to cut government spending and adopt strict anti-inflation policies in



SPREADING WEALTH If China and India get rich fast enough, they will be huge consumer markets. They will require African labour.

even Eastern reformers in the late '70s and early '80s—cautiously allowing hundreds of millions to abandon collectives and return to family farming—spurred remarkable growth. The reversal was rapid and permanent. According to one estimate, 75.7 per cent of Chinese villagers were impoverished in 1986, only 12.5 per cent in 2001.

The even more startling advances in Chinese manufacturing came after Beijing cautiously introduced the first special economic zones in the 1980s, allowing some foreign investment and opening up new export potential. "It was," Brand notes, "the way to open up China in a very controlled way. One measure of the new revolution: he estimates that 125 to 150 million former residents of China's interior have migrated to manufacturing zones in the coastal provinces. "I've gone into Chinese villages these days, and I've spent a lot of time in Chinese villages, you don't see very many able, working people between the ages of 18 and 35," he says. "They're gone."

That labour disparity between the interior and the coastal regions, the old countryside and the gleaming new cities, is evidence that the dream of China as one homogeneous, happy economic region (again?) Brand is not overly

WE SHOULD NOT IMAGINE THAT WHAT'S HAPPENING TO CHINA AND INDIA COULD NOT HAPPEN IN AFRICA

rich of investment and presence.

Not that China is necessarily the best model. Indeed, other high growth Asian economies might be even more worth watching. Brand says Vietnam, another poverty-slashing country he studies closely and visits often, has been more successful than China lately in building high-value agricultural exports, like coffee and cotton, which might be a closer parallel with what some African countries want to accomplish. Supporting rural entrepreneurs is a big component of Vietnam's current socio-economic development plan, which is supported by 54 donor nations, including Canada.

The very notion of such plans, though, is often scoffed at by critics of the way aid is sometimes used up in such large-scale exercises. Led by skeptics like New York University economist William Easterly, author of last year's *The White Man's Burden: Why the West's Efforts to Aid the Rest Have Done So Much Ill and So*

the 1980s. Even the most ardent advocates of market aid don't claim success alone is somehow going to create Asian-style economic dynamism. "An absence of aid spending is not a cause of global poverty," says Gerry Berry, president of the Canadian Council for International Cooperation. "But aid is a critically important bridge to initiatives which may be incredibly valuable in the developing world."

Nadav's aid has often been used or spent inefficiently. One acknowledged problem is the bewildering array of uncoordinated support programs in many poor countries—often bilateral aid, to which programs sponsored by religious charities, to learn from the World Bank. But don't a country like China, whose government must cope with "an incalculable" array of non-governmental organizations, along with perhaps 15 significant donor countries with missions coming and going each year. All have their own programs and standards for accountability. And it's to streamline the aid relationship was launched in 2001 with

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PAMPERING THE PLAYERS

The already pampered WTA Tour players are also in for some new treats. Chef **Buster Lee** will set up a special juice bar in the players' lounge and Toronto's headliner and the stars. **Roy Cullen**, will provide an on-site spa for the players.

Toronto's **Karl Hale**, the newly-named tournament director of the Rogers Cup presented by American Express, is a fan of the sport. He'll be in the stands when he talks about the year's exciting tournament.

One of the changes fans will notice is the tournament's new theme: *Victorious & Vogue*, which will highlight the glory, guts and glamour of women's tennis. "It's going to be great for the fans," said Hale, who was appointed tournament director in December to replace the outgoing director, Vancouverite **Orest Corneil**. "With the rise of so many young players capable of beating the top seeds, there's a tremendous depth in the women's game. As well, we have added some fun things for the fans to see and do when they are on site. This year's Rogers Cup is the place to be."

Hale, who played Davis Cup for Jamaica and is the head recruiter pro at Toronto's Donatelli Club, brings a wealth of tennis knowledge and community contacts to the Rogers Cup. With his movie-star good looks and winning personality, he and the Toronto Canada team promise that the nine-day event will be memorable.



HALE

TENNIS LEGENDS

The action kicks off Monday night, August 13 with Rogers Cup Tennis Legends presented by Acure. A singles and mixed doubles exhibition featuring former American tennis superstars **John McEnroe** and **Jim Courier**. Canada's own **Carling Bassett-Seguso** and Russia's **Anne Kournikova**. During the mixed doubles match each player will be wearing a microphone so that fans will be able to pick up the on-court chatter and feel closer to the action.

THE CONTENDERS



POWERFUL GROUNDSTROKES

When you ask Roger Federer to pick his favourite women tennis player, he doesn't hesitate: **Svetlana Kuznetsov**.

And what's not to love? The stocky Russian with the powerful groundstrokes is a reliable competitor every time she takes to the court. In 2006, the 22-year-old won titles at Basing, Baku and Miami and ended the year ranked No. 4. This year she has reached the finals of four tournaments and brought her ranking as high as No. 3.

Kuznetsov considers her success a combination of having a tough Russian mentality and receiving excellent coaching at the tennis academy in Barcelona where she trains. But games have to count for something. The former U.S. Open champion's father is a famous Russian cycling coach and her mother was a six-time world champion and Olympic cyclist.

That may explain why she has the most powerful legs in the game and can run around forever chasing down balls.



STRONG WINNING MENTALITY

Jelena Jankovic is part of the amazing one-two punch that the small country of Serbia has wrought on the tennis world. The 22-year-old Jankovic and her Belgrade-born compatriot, Ana Ivanovic, have soared to the top ranks of the tennis world this year.

Jankovic comes to Toronto after winning titles in Auckland, Cheltenham, Birmingham and Rome. And what a hard-core childhood she had. As a junior growing up in war-torn Yugoslavia, she endured bombings and played on makeshift courts. Despite the troubles, her phenomenal talent came to the attention of Florida's famed coach Nick Bollettieri. At his tennis academy, Jankovic developed the hard-hitting, take-no-prisoners style that has become her calling card. Although she is nicknamed "Jelly" and known for her gentler side of humour, Jankovic plays to win. "Serbians are very, very tough people with a strong winning mentality," she said. "I don't like to lose, and I never give up."

WICKED FOREHAND

Serbian teenager **Ana Ivanovic** surprised a lot of people last year when she surged from the pack to win the Rogers Cup, defeating Marina Hingis in the final.

Clearly, it was no fluke. The Canadian win was her first major on the women's tour and a launch pad for the screaming success she has had ever since. Dubbed the "brown-haired Shergarva" for her stunning good looks and wicked forehand, Ivanovic has been picking up wins over the world's top players. And, if her website is any indication, the sultry brunette has become one of the most popular players on tour.

This year, Ivanovic won the title in Berlin and gained worldwide acclaim when she reached the final of the French Open, losing to the wily Belgian, Justine Henin. On route to the final, she defeated two Russian powerhouses: Maria Sharapova and Svetlana Kuznetsov. Self-described as strong-willed, sensitive and competitive, Ivanovic is just 19 and a force to be reckoned with. Without any doubt, she will be gunning to hold onto the Rogers Cup title that she says is one of the major highlights of her career.



KILLER ONE-HANDED BACKHAND

When Belgium's **Justine Henin** takes to the courts at the Rogers Cup presented by American Express, she will be looking to regain the title she won in 2003.

She will be hard to stop. As the world's No. 1, she has played some of the best tennis of her life this year. Although she is one of the smallest players on the tour, what she lacks in height and power she makes up with speed around the court, fancy footwork and a killer one-handed backhand.

Henin's supreme athleticism and competitive drive were clearly on display at the French Open when she won her third consecutive title—fourth in all—defeating Rogers Cup defending champion Ana Ivanovic in the final. Only one other player in the Open era has accomplished the three-peat at Roland Garros—the amazing Monica Seles.

This year, Henin's on-court exploits have been matched by dramatic events in her personal life. In early January, she separated from her husband of two years, Pierre-Yves Haudenne. Then, weeks before the French Open, she reunited with her father, brothers and sister with whom she had been estranged. She dedicated the win to her family members who joyfully watched her from the stands for the first time. "It is a huge step in my life to be in touch with my family again," she said.

Henin would love to take another big step by regaining the championship she won four years ago in Toronto.





HARD-HITTING BASELINER

There are seven Russians ranked in the Top 20 in the world, far more than any other nationality. Moscow's **Anna Chakvetadze** is one of them. Recently, she played her way into the Top 10 rankings. And you get the sense she has only just begun.

The 20-year-old Chakvetadze joined the Sony Ericsson WTA Tour in 2003 and quickly made her presence felt. After her first Grand Slam, she defeated the No. 3 ranked Anastasia Myskina. Last year, she won two tournaments and then made the quarter-finals of the 2007 Australian Open, losing a close match to compatriot Maria Sharapova.

Not content to be another hard-hitting baseliner, Chakvetadze has a great range of shots comparable to Martina Hingis. In June, she reached a career high ranking of No. 5. Keep an eye on her, because she is going places.

TACTICAL GENIUS

It seems like a time warp when Switzerland's **Martina Hingis** steps on court. In the late 1990s, Hingis dominated women's tennis. In 1997, at the age of 16, she won the first two of her eventual five Grand Slams (Wimbledon and the Australian Open), becoming the youngest Grand Slam champion in the 20th century.

Six years later, after holding the world No. 1 for a total of 239 weeks, her phenomenal run came to an end. She was forced from the game with nagging foot injuries. Last year she returned to full-time play, and she almost immediately made her presence felt. Since then, she has climbed to as high as No. 5 in the world rankings, has won three titles and has reached the finals in another three, including last year's Rogers Cup.

The younger, hard-hitting players know that the 26-year-old Hingis is still a tactical genius, a danger in every clone. This is one champion you can never count out.



rogerscup.com



CROWD FAVOURITE

French **Amélie Mauresmo**, a two-time winner of the Rogers Cup presented by Amstar Express, will be here to notch her third Canadian title.

A perennial crowd favourite, the 26-year-old Frenchwoman may be a tour veteran but this year she is trying to find her form. After a scorching 2006 season in which she won her first two Grand Slams (the Australian Open and Wimbledon), she has been plagued by injuries and illness. In March, she was operated on for acute appendicitis and missed almost two months of play. Then she was struck with a thigh problem.

But the former World No. 1, who is widely considered the most stylish player in the game, is keen to get back to her winning ways. With her trademark one-handed backhand and aggressive net play, Mauresmo will always be a threat on the hard courts of the Rexall Centre.

EIGHT-TIME GRAND SLAM WINNER

Serena Williams, the eight-time Grand Slam winner, moved back to the tennis tour this year. In January, the unseeded Serena won the Australian Open, dethroning then World No. 1 Maria Sharapova in the final. Two months later she won in Miami going both Sharapova and Justine Henin a lesson in how to win.

Yes, folks, it appears like Serena is getting serious about tennis again. After taking a great deal of time off to heal injuries, the powerful American who won the Rogers Cup in 2001 has recommitted herself to the sport. Now fitter and faster, she is capable of dominating the competition with her strong serve and devastating groundstrokes.

Translation: Serena will be hard to beat if she is on her game.



rogerscup.com

HIGHEST PAID FEMALE ATHLETE

At the end of 2006, Russia's **Maria Sharapova** was the highest-paid female athlete in the world. She had just come off a win at the U.S. Open—her second Grand Slam—and she seemed unbeatable again.

But the blonde from Siberia got a rude awakening when she played in the finals of the 2007 Australian Open. There, she was beaten soundly by a renewed Serena Williams. In the run-up to the French Open, Sharapova was sidelined with a shoulder injury. And clay has never been her favourite.



surface. "I feel like a cow on ice out there," is how she described playing on the red clay at Roland Garros.

Still, she battled her way to the French semi-finals before losing to Sharbi's up-and-coming dynamo, Ana Ivanovic. Depending on how her shoulder holds up this summer, the 25-year-old Sharapova still has the strokes and mental toughness to beat them all. When you plunk your talents down to see her play, you know you are going to get your money's worth. Flat shirt, per businesswoman, Sharapova knows how to put on a show.

CANADIANS AT THE ROGERS CUP

Tennis Canada owns and operates the Rogers Cup men's and women's tournaments, which are two of the premier events on the ATP Tour and Sony Ericsson WTA Tour. But Tennis Canada has a higher calling as well. Founded in 1890, this non-profit national sports association is responsible for the growth, promotion and showcasing of Canadian tennis.

Tennis Canada's goal is to make the country a leading tennis nation by 2020. And increasingly, Canadians are beginning to make their mark on the world stage. The hopeful Canucks who will compete at the 2007 Rogers Cup are sure to be the up-and-coming members of Canada's Red Cup team.

Leading the pack is **Aleksandra Wozniak**, the 19-year-old from Bielville, Que. Earlier this year she reached a career high ranking of No. 83

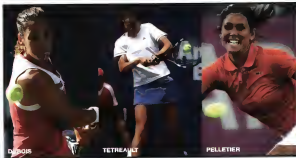
on the Sony Ericsson WTA Tour, becoming the first Canadian female to crack the Top 100 since Sonya Jayassarian in 2002. This came after Wozniak, who won three Challenger events in 2006, teched the finals of a 2007 WTA tournament in Morocco.

Close on her heels will be Red Cup singles player **Stephanie Dubois**, a 20-year-old from Laval, Que., who has been ranked as high as 115 on the WTA computer. Dubois advanced to the third round of the Rogers Cup in Montreal last summer, capturing the attention of the Canadian tennis world and vaulting her to stardom in her home province.

"That week was like a dream come true," Dubois recalled. "I remember going to the stadium when I was a kid and running around the courts getting autographs, and last year people were asking for mine. It was unbelievable."



Flourishing out the field are two more Quebecers: **Marie-Eve Pelletier** and **Valerie Tetreault**. While Pelletier is a veteran of Fed Cup play, the 19-year-old Tetreault is just starting to make her mark. Over the last few years she has made great progress as her WTA ranking has jumped almost 700 spots (from No. 935 at the end of 2005 to 221 in early 2007). Tetreault was also a singles finalist in three 2006 challengers and is clearly a Canadian to watch.



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THE EVENT



The Rogers Cup presented by American Express gets under way August 11 at York University's Panat Centre. In an effort to resolve disputed line calls early, players will be allowed to challenge the umpire. The final offer? An instant replay that will clearly show whether the ball is in or out. Here's how it works: each player is permitted two challenges per set. If a player's challenge is upheld and the call overturned, she retains both challenges. If not, she's down to one. After two lost challenges, she can't challenge a call for the remainder of the set. In tie-break games, one additional challenge is allowed.

Replays will be seen by television audiences at home and by stadium fans on huge video boards, thanks to Hawk-Eye Offsetting electronic line-calling technology, a network of cameras mounted atop Centre Court which produces a three-dimensional image of where the ball lands.

The system debuted in March, 2006 at the Nestlé 100 in Miami, where 50 of the 101 challenged calls were reversed. "It adds another element for the fans," said Andy Roddick. "If the player is right, everybody screams, if not, he's an idiot. It's great for the game."

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

Session	Date	Schedule	Gates Open	Start Time
1	Sat. Aug. 11	Qualifying	9:30 am	10:00 am
2	Sun. Aug. 12	Qualifying	9:30 am	10:00 am
3	Mon. Aug. 13	1st round	10:00 am	11:00 am
4	Mon. Aug. 13	1st round	5:30 pm	6:30 pm
5	Tues. Aug. 14	1st/2nd round	10:00 am	11:00 am
6	Tues. Aug. 14	1st/2nd round	5:30 pm	7:30 pm
7	Wed. Aug. 15	2nd round	10:00 am	11:00 am
8	Wed. Aug. 15	2nd round	5:30 pm	7:30 pm
9	Thurs. Aug. 16	3rd round	10:00 am	11:00 am
10	Thurs. Aug. 16	3rd round	5:30 pm	7:30 pm
11	Fri. Aug. 17	Quarter-finals	10:00 am	11:00 am
12	Fri. Aug. 17	Quarter-finals	5:30 pm	7:30 pm
13	Sat. Aug. 18	Semi-finals	10:00 am	1:00 pm
14	Sat. Aug. 18	Semi-finals	5:30 pm	7:30 pm
15	Sun. Aug. 19	Finals	10:00 am	11:00 am

ROGERS CUP BROADCAST SCHEDULE AUGUST 13-19

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1:00 pm-5:30 pm LIVE TSN	1:00 pm-5:00 pm LIVE TSN	1:00 pm-5:00 pm LIVE TSN	1:00 pm-5:00 pm LIVE TSN	1:00 pm-5:00 pm LIVE TSN	1:00 pm-5:00 pm LIVE CBC	2:00 pm-4:30 pm LIVE CBC



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OFF THE COURT



SHARAPOVA APPOINTED GOODWILL AMBASSADOR

Maria Sharapova joined an elite group of global athletes when she was appointed a Goodwill Ambassador for the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). At a ceremony at U.N. headquarters in New York, Sharapova presented a \$100,000 contribution for UNDP Chernobyl-recovery projects and said she will work to rally support for the global campaign against poverty.



CLIJSTERS ANNOUNCES HER RETIREMENT

The Sony Ericsson WTA Tour suffered a big loss this year when former world No. 1 **Kim Clijsters** announced her retirement. The wildly popular Belgian named U.S. \$15 million on tour and won 34 singles titles. But for some, she will always be known for her generosity. In one California tournament, Clijsters showed up at an auction to raise money for breast cancer and paid U.S. \$11,000 for a little puppy. She then promptly gave the dog to a woman in the audience who had just lost her dog days earlier.



SELES TO PLAY A FEW MORE TOURNAMENTS?

Whatever happened to **Monica Seles's** promised return to tennis? Frankly, it looks less and less likely. In 2003, Seles was sidelined with a nagging foot injury. In February 2005 she played two exhibition matches against Navratilova and announced that she could return to the game early in 2006. With the clock ticking, Seles has said that she intends to play a few more tournaments before officially retiring. We all hope so.

DAVENPORT GIVES BIRTH TO HER FIRST CHILD

Three-time Grand Slam winner **Lindsay Davenport** gave birth to her first child, a baby boy, on June 10. Davenport, who left the tour last year, is married to investment banker and former Southern Cal player Jonathan Leach. "My husband and I both wanted to start a family," said Davenport, one of the Sony Ericsson WTA Tour's all-time greatest players. "It's happening now and I'm looking at tennis as the former part of my life. I'm starting a new life now."



WILLIAMS TO STAR IN A NEW REALITY TV SHOW

Serena Williams is known for the blistering speed of her strokes, but recently she has been testing her speed on the redneck. Williams is one of 12 celebrities, including singer Jewel and actor William Shatner, who will star in a new reality TV show called *Fast Cars & Superstars* - *Gallop Young Guns Celebrity Race*. In the show, the celebs will team up with stock car racing's biggest drivers to learn what it takes to win behind the wheel.



MATCH POINTS

CALCULATING THE RANKINGS

You definitely need a computer and perhaps an advanced degree in mathematics to figure out how the WTA takes issue at their women's tennis rankings. The rankings, published every week on the Sony Ericsson WTA Tour website, are a multi-read as they determine player acceptances and seeding for all tournaments.

Here's how they work. Rankings are based on a 52-week, cumulative system. The number of tournament results that comprise a player's ranking is capped at 17 for singles and 11 for doubles. The results used to determine a player's ranking are the tournaments yielding the player's highest ranking points over the past 52 weeks including points from the mandatory Tier I tournament and the Grand Slam tournaments, if the player qualifies.

WTA RANKINGS

Top 20 as of Monday, July 9

Rank	Player	Rank Pts.	Pts. Moved	Points
1	Hewitt, Justine (AUS)	4457	0	13
2	Sharapova, Maria (RUS)	3678	0	15
3	Jankovic, Jelena (SRB)	3241	0	30
4	Kuznetsova, Svetlana (RUS)	2575	+1	21
5	Ivanovic, Ana (SRB)	2066	+1	21
6	Mauresco, Amelie (FRA)	2424	-2	15
7	Williams, Serena (USA)	2360	+1	10
8	Chakovskaya, Anna (RUS)	2221	-1	21
9	Petrova, Nadia (RUS)	2002	0	24
10	Vaidisova, Nicole (CZE)	1973	0	17
11	Bartoli, Marion (FRA)	1875	+8	32
12	Hantuchova, Daniela (SVK)	1857	0	20
13	Hingis, Martina (SUI)	1645	-2	16
14	Safina, Dinara (RUS)	1742	-0	21
15	Dementieva, Elena (RUS)	1630	-2	21
16	Schneider, Patty (SUI)	1671	-1	25
17	Williams, Venus (USA)	1555	+14	11
18	Peck, Shiharu (JPN)	1523	-2	22
19	Geloven, Tathiana (FRA)	1410	-2	19
20	Li, Na (CHN)	1153	-2	20

THE SONY ERICSSON WTA TOUR RANKING POINTS DISTRIBUTION

Tournament Category	Total Financial Commitment	W	F	SF	QF	R16	R32	Q64	R128	Q192	Q3	Q2	Q1
Grand Slam		1000	720	480	280	140	90	60	2	31	25	18	2
SF Challenge		750	525	350	150	100							
Tier I	\$3,000,000	520	360	225	125	70	40	30	1	20	10	5	1
Tier II	\$600,000	330	215	140	75	40	1			15	10	5	1
Tier III	\$225,000	195	115	75	40	20	1			5	3	1	
Tier IV	\$145,000	115	60	30	30	15	1			7	3	2	1
ITF	\$100,000-H	75	55	40	20	1							

Key: W - Winner; F - Finalist; SF - Semi-finalist; QF - Quarter-finalist; R - Round of

4th; Indicate that Hospitality is provided

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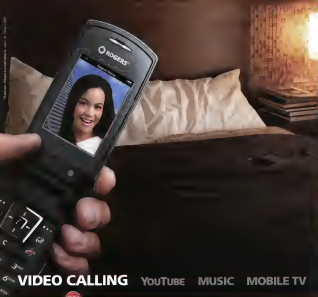
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WORLD

they so called their declaration. The aim is to funnel more aid toward the government budgets of developing countries, instead of separate aid-funded projects, trust funds, and employee secondments.

Another high profile bid to find ways to improve the payoff from every aid dollar spent is Canada's highly touted millennium villages program. Under the program, impoverished villages are given the basics—typically fertilizer and seeds, mosquito nets, a water supply, health care and schools—and then are monitored to see how they use these building blocks to improve their lot. Arguing that surprisingly little is needed to alleviate the worst suffering, Sucha calls extreme

poverty "the least Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development tally of official development assistance from Canada is a dismal 11th spot, allocating about 0.3 per cent of gross national income to helping poor countries. That's far below aid spending levels in the Scandinavian countries, the Swedes and Norway, but also well behind Britain and France. The U.S. and Japan, however, trail Canada. Canada spends less than half of the UN target for all developed countries of 0.7 per cent, established by former prime minister Lester B. Pearson in a 1969 report for the World Bank.

Rather than committing to meet the UN standard, successive federal governments

such as the Conservatives, Liberals and Solons.

But now questions are swirling about how concerned Harper's government is on the MDGs, especially when it comes to African poverty. The government has opposed a private member's bill that would specifically require CIDA to direct aid to alleviating poverty, and provide quarterly and clearer accounting for how it spends money. As well, Harper's recent trip to Latin America and the Caribbean underscored his still somewhat vague preference for shifting some of Canada's focus to the western hemisphere.

International Cooperation Minister Joe Verrier, who is responsible for CIDA, recently said that's "just starting the process" of decid-



THE CHALLENGE AHEAD: Here CIDA spending in Haiti and Bolivia is welcome—as long as it doesn't mean less for sub-Saharan Africa

'CANADA HAS A ROBUST ECONOMY AND A CAPACITY TO MEET OUR AID OBLIGATIONS, BUT WE HAVE FAILED'

poverty a "stupid reason" for anyone to do. He estimates the developed world would have to roughly double aid budgets to more than US\$200 billion a year to end poverty in a generation.

If that sounds like a lot, consider the fact that most generous aid would not be spent in a vacuum. The world economy is humming along nicely and, at least in theory, some assistance could help under poor countries into that expanding global marketplace—if they were welcome. A point of shame for the rich North has to be the failure of the WTO's Doha talks to hammer out a deal to open their markets to exports from the poor South. The latest World Trade Organization meeting was latest by some in the midst of developing countries to agree to cut their own tariffs on manufactured imports in return for the U.S. and European Union lowering their levies on and tariffs on agricultural imports.

Canada isn't happy to drive the Doha round, but Canadians have other reasons to question Ottawa's commitment to the poorest

have set more limited goals. Prime Minister Stephen Harper is embracing the policy put in place by the Liberals under Jean Chrétien of boosting aid spending by eight per cent a year. But there is no plan that would bring Canada up to the 0.7 per cent threshold, or even achieve a 0.5 per cent pledge to join the OECD membership as per cent. "Canada is an almost uniquely bad example," says Barr, "because we have in combination this robust economy, this capacity to meet our obligations, and have systematically failed to do so."

Not surprisingly, the emphasis among federal officials tends to be on improving the effectiveness of spending, not boosting it. The federal aid agency, the Canadian International Development Agency, has been run by recent critics, particularly from Senate committees, of its programs in Africa and Afghanistan. CIDA has responded by vowing to launch a strategic plan to focus this year on getting out the message about how Canada is helping, especially in fragile coun-

try how to implement this policy, and also has been inconsistent about whether it could mean less money for Africa. The North South Institute's Foster says more CIDA spending is, say, Haiti and Bolivia would be welcome—but not if it means less for Ghana and Mozambique. "There's a lot of concern in the moment among Canadian NGOs in Africa and their African partners," he said. "If we're shifting orientations of aid to Latin America from sub-Saharan Africa, that's most, most unfortunate."

Setting priorities is always a tricky business when it comes to limited taxpayer resources. But maybe if Canadians were persuaded that the worst sort of poverty is really still the worst, they would be willing to bankroll more aid in Latin America without over-throwing Africa. The case can now be made. The UN's aim of halving extreme poverty by 2015 will not be achieved, thanks mostly to Asia's economic rise. Serious room must believe Africa could be next, given the new trade rules from a revamped Doha round, a decade or two of pent-up, more effectively targeted aid, and continued progress toward less corruption and conflict. It won't be easy, but the fact that it now looks possible should hardly be enough. ■

NATO IS GETTING JITTERY

The thought of Canada and the Netherlands leaving Afghanistan is cause for concern

BY PAUL WELLS • On June 14, a Dutch army anti-aircraft team set out to celebrate International Women's Day by visiting a girls' school in the city of Tarn Kow. In the south-east Afghan province of Uruzgan, it was the kind of task the Dutch army prides a quiet day's work with a positive message and a healthy dose of co-operation with Afghan civil authorities. Dutch authorities agree repeatedly that they will fight the Taliban if they resist—but that they'd rather put the Taliban peacefully to rest and not be seen by appearing to ordinary Afghans to be brutal and ruthless. On this particular day the Taliban didn't give them a choice. A car packed with explosives rolled down an alley, slammed into a Dutch M-113 armored personnel carrier, and detonated, killing the driver, 30 Afghan civilians, and severely wounding Timo Smeetsma, a 20-year-old Dutch army private.

An isolated incident it would have been best left at, but the suicide bombing marked the launch of a concerted Taliban assault against the Dutch troops and Afghan army checkpoints in Uruzgan. The fight lasted for two days and ended in the town of Chars, near Tarn Kow. It was considerably worse. One more Dutch soldier died, apparently from Dutch mortar fire. At least 10 Taliban soldiers died. Several Afghan civilians were also killed, their deaths another reason to join the Taliban against the Dutch army.

Weeks later, in the sprawling headquarters of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in Brussels, much of the hallway was packed close to the Dutch flag that at Chars. The Netherlands is not known for being warlike. At Schinbeek in 1995, Dutch troops stood by helplessly while Jordanian forces killed three sons of Bosnian Muslim civilians. In the intervening decade, the Netherlands government has continued to cut military spending, just as Canadian governments did in the 1990s. NATO allies, including Canadians, have sometimes armed themselves with a sort of soldierly dogmatism that goes down as the Dutch troops' lightning strike "Women who wouldn't shoot."

That's over now. "The Dutch didn't pick this fight," one NATO official told *Maclean's*.



THE MAJORITY at home want the Dutch soldiers, and tanks, out of north's way by '08

"The Taliban took it to them. And they got their backs out."

Like Canada's own Armed Forces, the Dutch have discovered in the sands of Afghanistan a measure of the warlike spirit they thought they had left behind. Or, at least, the soldiers have. It's not at all clear that the populations of Canada or the Netherlands share that taste for the nation's elements of

the soldier's work. Which leads into the other topic of preoccupation among NATO planners: that of the two most plucky middle powers in NATO, the International Security Assistance Force, are preparing to commit out of their ports in the south of Afghanistan. And that no other country will be willing or able to take our soldiers' place.

The United States and Great Britain have

substantially larger troop deployments in Afghanistan, but their commitment to the remote areas unlikely to flag any time soon. Of the 40,000 ISAF troops throughout Afghanistan, about 14,700 are American, 6,500 British, 2,500 Canadian and 1,300 Dutch. Only Germany, Italy, Poland and Turkey have also fielded national contingents of more than 1,000 soldiers.

Most of the cuts in Canada and the Netherlands are particularly heavy losses. Pursuing the two countries to stay in the south of Afghanistan isn't finding replacements in the west or for country decisions to scale back its commitment. "We'll be the big star for 2008, absolutely," a senior NATO official told *Maclean's*.

A withdrawal from smaller NATO member states would go further. "I frankly fear a negative domino effect. Else the Dutch will want

to leave the Canadian Forces troops in Kandahar. That's original mission expires at August of 2008. And the Netherlands has governed a parliamentary debate that autumn on what to do next.

While Dutch parliamentarians prepare for that debate, Dutch public support for the mission is eroding. Polling by the *Maastricht* *Uitendag* firm shows that only 34 percent of respondents favoured extending the mission in early July, down from 50 percent a month earlier. The number calling outright for the mission to end in 2008 stood at 58 per cent, up seven points since June.

Germany, without many people, is another country where the Dutch debate in Afghanistan has opened the Canadian debate. But, for instance, announced in 2006 that it would ally itself on the southern mission of the coalition to the support of the largest

of critics of "covert" that permits some countries' forces to deploy, or to fight, only under limited circumstances.

The very strong consensus among NATO leaders over the fact that public opinion didn't do the alliance any good. It did get Poland to cough up another 1,000 soldiers, who were deployed in February. Elsewhere around the table, only hard feelings. "Publicly getting up there and announcing allies isn't helpful," a senior NATO official told *Maclean's*. "It's harder than not going to announce these allies that, as they're not approved anyway, they might as well come home."

So at the new NATO summit in Bucharest, Romania, in April of 2008, leaders of the alliance were forced and determined to come up with good news for a change.

They want Afghanistan and Pakistan co-operating better to reduce the Taliban's ability to retreat across the porous border into safe havens in Pakistan. They want "the Goethe" a high-quality United Nations administration with a mandate to coordinate what has so far been an inconsistent patchwork of civilian relief and reconstruction efforts—to be "out of his cage," i.e. on the job. They'd like measures to place in place helicopters, flight crews and mountain assault and transport teams. Because even though the NATO mission has thousands of helicopters, they always struggle to have a chronic shortage in operational assets.

And the NATO issue versus Canada and the Netherlands to allow (or not) to let the hand work they've been doing, or as well as the road to planning a seamless transition with replacement troops north toward NATO commitment missions elsewhere.

While officials in every nation around the world will happen if Canada and the Netherlands come out of the room, they are adamant that both countries have earned the right to make that decision. If Canada were to scale back its commitment in 2009, that would be "a normal rotation period," the senior NATO official said.

What NATO doesn't want, this time, is a public spat. "That would be the quickest route to lose Afghanistan," the senior official said.

But even though the allies are determined to stay near, below the surface a good deal of tension remains. A French official showed up for an interview with *Maclean's* with a stack of supporting documents, a marked reluctance to let a reporter get a word in edgewise, and an urgent message: France has been committed in its allyship to Afghanistan since 2001. "We have done everything we can. And we have said everything we would not do."

This diplomacy was, like most of the people *Maclean's* interviewed in Brussels for this story,

PERSUADING CANADA AND THE NETHERLANDS TO STAY IN THE SOUTH OF AFGHANISTAN—OR FINDING REPLACEMENTS—"WILL BE THE BIG ISSUE OF 2008, ABSOLUTELY"

agreed upon. Dutch Labour Canada's prime minister, Stephen Harper, has begun to make stronger arguments: he will only enter the mission next year if there is a "political consensus" among partners to do so.

It's this similarity of rhetoric, and the ease with which Dutch and Canadian decisions that must be made within months of each other, that has NATO officials at any. That and the distinct lack of handshakes up what ever they ask who might like to relieve the battle-worn armies in the front lines of Afghanistan's most dangerous territory, the southern provinces.

Nobody from any country or the NATO command structure will name the second-term countries for the record, but off the record everyone knows who they are: France, Germany, Spain, Italy, and perhaps Turkey and Greece. They have the big, sophisticated 21st-century armies that would come in handy when the job was done the Taliban into their last redoubts. None is as a road to

if there is a difference this year from last, it is in the reluctance of NATO officials to publicly call out the reluctant nations for criticism. NATO's top commanders tried naming and shaming last autumn, and it didn't go well. In the run-up to a NATO heads of government summit last November in Riga, Latvia, secretary general Jaap Hoop-Schieder publicly called for more troops in the south from nations that hadn't sent many, or any. And he was silent in

relieve. And then the Canadians will follow. And that's that? "We don't have a debating country yet. 'Why Afghanistan?', but who knows? This has become a case of cohesion." Boris Bielewicz, the "Why Afghanistan?" debate is well advanced. Prime Minister Jaap Hoop-Schieder with parliament support for the mission into Uruzgan province in 2006, putting his country's soldiers on very far, in either distance or depth of combat,

Common cause, at a distance

Supporting the U.S. yet acting independently is a tricky act for Canada

BY KATIA CHE RAVACHE • During his last Latin American tour last week, Stephen Harper told a group of business leaders in Santiago, Chile, that Canada's "proven and independent" economic growth Latin Americans need not choose between "the syndrome of economic nationalism, political authoritarianism, and class warfare" or becoming "just like the United States," whatever that means. The Prime Minister gave the impression of naming George W. Bush in the same breath with Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez, and making both not to the curb. But something more complex is going on as Canada launches a major new foreign policy engagement in Washington's backyard. While he may have appeared to be distancing himself from Washington, behind the scenes he was growing closer.

A week before Harper set off on his week-long tour of Colombia, Chile, Bolivia and Haiti, where he announced trade agreements and other commitments, his ambassador to Washington, Michael Wilson, took a trip of his own—as a hotel in Crystal City, Va., where President George W. Bush, First Lady Laura Bush, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and four other U.S. cabinet members presided over White House events for the Americas. "I believe the Atlantic implies an rich and great human potential. And it's in our interest to help people realize their full potential," said Bush, who showcased U.S.-funded public and private initiatives on education, health care, infrastructure, and macro financing. Wilson was then so taken notes, looking for statements that Canada could mirror, join, complement or leverage by. "There is a lot of common ground that we should be able to do together," said Wilson, who also attended dinners with Washington policy experts to pick their brains about what Canada could do as Latin America, and pronounced himself "impressed" by the "solidarity" among the Washington policy elite for Canada's new aggressive demeanor in Latin America.

It's all part of a bigger diplomatic picture. Since his arrival in Washington in March 2006, following better news over the Iraq war, bilateral trade and softwood lumber, Wilson has made it an embassy priority to

explicitly seek out what he calls "common cause"—areas of potential cooperation around the world, from creating free trade links to ratifying labor rules and rebuilding failed states—where Canada and the U.S. share the same broad goals. The Harper government wants to leave its stamp on the world stage, and along the way Wilson wants to show the White House and Congress that the bilateral relationship going beyond merely managing a handful of gray irritants and can rise to the level of a "partnership" in the world.

"The American pillar [friendship], explains Wilson, is his embassy of Secretary's friend

and investment. We find some things have the bilateral agenda to deal with, but I think the Harper government has sought to make these issues on a co-operative way, rather than just complaining our loud about them."

Wilson plays down whether cold relationships have led to an approach. "I wouldn't put it in the sense of being a grand strategy," he says, "but a natural progression of policy thinking." It doesn't hurt that some of the congressional committees that deal with Canadian issues have as their backdrop the entire Western Hemisphere. If Canada ever engages on issues of primary interest to the U.S., it gains attention and credit for its own priorities. And it has seemed that when Canada's Rice meets with Peter MacKay, Canada's foreign minister, with Rice's pro-attention to the Middle East are at the top of her agenda.

The most visible "common cause" between

for Washington's consumption. There are things Canada can do on the world stage that the United States, at this moment in history, simply can't. "They are the superpower and we aren't," Wilson said in a speech in Toronto last January. "That makes the range and possibilities available to the United States in shaping the international agenda very different from those available to Canada. That's an advantage, but also a disadvantage."

Latin America is a case in point. In Colombia, Canada can help toward reconciliation between former paramilitaries and rebels, a task made complicated for the U.S. since it has a heavy military involvement in the country. Canada also has an advantage

in positioning good governance and infrastructure building. When Mexico was designing its electoral commissions, advice and assistance that was so local from Canada would have been interesting coming from Washington. Both Canada and the U.S. want to steer the region toward democracy, but it's easier for Canada to talk about freedom and human rights than it is for Bush, who is consumed by his own mind. "Canada doesn't carry that baggage, not nearly to the extent the U.S. does," says Peter Hain, president of the latter American Dialogue, a Washington-based think tank on Western Hemisphere affairs, and one of the experts who Wilson has created to the embassy.

And given that Bush has a second mandate, Canada could take on a crucial role in hemisphere co-operation, from pushing a free

trade of member weapons in the Secretariat Union and to displace of trade external from member-powered administrations.

But Wilson insists Canadians need not worry that their foreign policy will reflect anything but Canada's national interest. When Canada looked to see what it could do in Latin America, it was natural to look and see what the Americans were doing, he says. But Canadians who disagree with some Bush policies in the world would be hampered by what he saw at the White House conference, Wilson insists. "I'd be surprised if there were one part of the White House conference that those various initiatives by the U.S.—good things, positive things that Canadians would not only support and agree with," says Wilson. "I don't think there is anything I heard that people in Canada would be upset about." Wilson notes that Bush himself has made it says to the region.

But as Canada goes visibly and explicitly goes down this path, it will have to walk a fine line—parallel to the American one perhaps, but only as an arm's length. "For Canada to really be credible in establishing a policy toward Latin America and other regions of the world, it is important the United States, but it has to show it's acting independently as well—that it's not doing this in tandem to the U.S. or in a closer relationship," says Hain. Judging by his remarks in Santiago, Stephen Harper got that message, and Washington is not complaining. ■

THERE ARE THINGS CANADA CAN DO ON THE WORLD STAGE THAT THE UNITED STATES SIMPLY CAN'T



trade-wide trading area to the strengthening of the Organization of American States. "That's a role only Canada can take on with great credibility than the U.S. in this part," said Hain.

There are many other areas where Canada is working in tandem. Canada has actively pushed other countries to follow the U.S. lead on dealing with Iran, it has been pressing a market-based approach to energy dependence into international trade and agreements, and has taken a leadership role as an initiative by G8 countries to help destroy

WILSON (left) is trying to find ways to show Bush's White House that the relationship between Canada and the United States can rise to the level of a partnership in the world.



DURING HARPER'S TOUR of Latin America and the Caribbean, Wilson is trying to find ways to show Bush's White House that the relationship between Canada and the United States can rise to the level of a partnership in the world.

view of the Capitol dome. And in a town where friends have been in demanding supply, this approach is not unnoticed. Says a State Department official. "It's exactly what we have wanted from Canada, a partner who will work with us together on the 90 per cent of international issues where our goals are the same: deliver corruption, advance and our stabilize democracy and good governance, prevent the proliferation of WMDs, promote economic development through open trade

Canada and the U.S. is, of course, Afghanistan, and Canada's NATO role there is mutually reinforcing. "When I go to the people on the Hill, more often than not they will make reference to the great work our men and women are doing in Afghanistan. So, yes, it does help," says Wilson. "I've had it said to me very bluntly by members of the administration that what we do work together is very definitely noticed by them."

But "common cause" is not just a policy job

DANIEL KOSLOWSKI/REUTERS; PHOTOS COURTESY OF CANADIAN PRESS; PHOTOS COURTESY OF CANADIAN PRESS

The danger of defying voodoo

BY MICHAEL PETRU • Shortly before beginning his 1997 campaign for the post of mayor of Liberia, Charles Taylor, a former warlord widely held responsible for fending and controlling an army of drug-addicted child in a neighbouring Sierra Leone, made a special trip to Berlin for a visit to voodoo priest. There, according to Candor Reeves, Taylor's former brother-in-law who accompanied him on the trip, the priest laid hands on him, coaxed the liver, the heart and other organs, and gave them to Taylor to eat as part of a ritual to ensure his success in the election. "The voodoo he made was that anyone who heard the sound of Taylor's voice would follow him, like fish follow him," he reveals. "I don't really believe this stuff, but I saw a lot of people under his spell—even people who were violently Taylor's soldiers. They would follow to watch him pass."

True to the election, Taylor lost a real life. He called the National Patriotic Front of Liberia that lost them control of most of Liberia during six years of civil war. The election was the result of a peace accord that ended the fighting. Although Taylor was an over-the-hill candidate, his charisma alone saved him. He is now facing trial at the UN-backed Special Court for Sierra Leone in The Hague on charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity relating to his alleged backing of child-propaganda Sierra Leone's civil war. Candor Reeves's life has changed as well. He was

Testifying against a Liberian despot is a peril, even in Canada



TAYLOR (left) had many "followers" (Reeves right)

Don Reeves's problems are more acute than the possibility of being found guilty or status as an outcast of his own country. As a former member of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia, he kept a low profile. However, he now has no choice but to speak. The Washington Post reports that Reeves coaxed a long silence and told his story to Michael's. Now, virtually wherever he goes where other Liberians are present, friends

and acquaintances warn him that his life is in danger if he insists on testifying. Reeves says he has met or seen some 15 former warlords or fighters from Taylor's NPFL army, some in Canada. Many Liberians in Canada, even if not previously involved in the NPFL, see Taylor supporters and are fearful with Reeves because of his plan to testify.

Some have pending refugee claims, Reeves says, and would not risk their legal status by turning over evidence they thought him. But the warnings are not universal. Reeves believes,

credible. One came from an old friend who didn't really look like Taylor's man, but wanted to protect Reeves. Reeves played a phone message for Michael from another Liberian in Canada who said he was not so sure because no one will believe his. Reeves has also received a few messages of support from Liberians in Canada, but these he likes to mention. "I'm scared," he said. "I'm done, it would be something, but I will not let this be an end to my life and life."

It is difficult to understand why so many Liberian Canadians apparently support a man believed to be responsible for some of

the most heinous crimes conceivable against a nation, women and children. During Liberia's civil war, its citizens were not at all aware of the fact that many were willing to throw their support behind any strongman who seemed capable of ending the chaos. But that doesn't explain Taylor's support among Liberians in Canada, especially when Liberia itself is now a peaceful democracy under the presidency of Ellen Johnson Sirleaf.

Reeves suggested that a disproportionate number of Taylor supporters have come to Canada, but he also admits that Taylor was widely loved. "He had certain charisma over the people it's hard to explain," he says. And then he recalled the day that he and Taylor took to Borkom and the ceremony was dashed there by the voodoo priest. "Maybe it worked," he said. ■



ITALY: ATHLETES MUST AVOID STABBING EACH OTHER

Eager that nothing should get in the way of September's Mediterranean Games, Italian athletes were warned that the participants are over 15 and a few are up to 60 years old, sometimes have criminal records and other threatening conduct. The Italian press, following a recent incident in which a Jewish teacher, Stefano Torricelli, was stabbed in the back by a young man, warned Italian athletes to avoid stabbing each other. The Italian press, following a recent incident in which a Jewish teacher, Stefano Torricelli, was stabbed in the back by a young man, warned Italian athletes to avoid stabbing each other.

A political debut turns out a bust

BY PATRICIA THERIAULT • Being a British home secretary, dealing with a major crisis and a new social movement, a race by a day last Friday, Joseph Smith's minority cabinet, some members that showed a more perceptive view of the situation in the cabinet, was a real embarrassment for the cabinet. The previous day, while discussing a review, one whether ministers should be appointed as a class officer, she admitted to smoking it.

"I did it when I was at university. I think it was wrong that I smoked it when I did," explained Smith, 46. "I have not done it for 25 years." After the home secretary's confession, four other members of Gordon Brown's cabinet admitted to having a youthful taste. While the PM had denied misgivings, Health Secretary Alan Johnson had a more novel explanation of his youth. "I did the sea and rock 'n' roll, but not the drugs."

While Smith's political debut was a disaster, there's no doubt that she has a rocky start to her new job. Former Labour's chief whip, she got the post of home secretary just hours before the crisis of terrorism unfolded in London and Glasgow threatened the world as a whole.

While she was cool and statesmanlike in the media, the nation, all the commentators seemed to focus on whether Brown's daughter, generally captured by the media as a Communist, was a "Secret in a D cup."



LOW AND BROWN: the home secretary defends the public

renewed the Guardian, while the Daily Mail's Amanda Plant wondered whether the night "most clearly marked a final break in a 20-year-old or two-week-old at school-busting revolt" which began at the airport, but he turned up ever since. Still, she is the first female politician to take a look back on the Senate floor last Wednesday. Harry Reid from Illinois suddenly showed his change, no doubt trying to spice up her image. ■

Rewarding immigrants backfires



PRAYERS IN TEHRAN: Jews take pride in their Iranian identity

BY SUZANNE TAYLOR • How much money would it take for you to leave your homeland and move to a new country? Well! I hope \$10,000 might be enough. That's how much is being offered to Iranian Jews willing to move to the motherland, with upwards of \$60,000 being offered for an entire family. The cash incentive comes from a fund established by a group of Jewish expatriates and have Jewish officials' endorsement. With about 25,000 Jews living in Iran—the largest population in a Middle Eastern country outside of Israel—the group is hoping the incentives could create a modern day exodus.

But it looks if it may have a rough sale on the hands. An Israeli newspaper reported that the cash amounts were doubled after earlier offers went unaccepted. The Society of Iranian Jews said in a statement that the nation's Jews are proud of their Iranian identity, which "is not tradeable for any amount of money." And it's not only Jewish members of parliament, Moshe Mirmiran, said that the initiative was "not a good idea" and that it would be "a mistake" to let Jewish members of the Iranian Jewish community go under poor pay to prove their loyalty.

That money isn't everything shouldn't be a surprise, says Frank Dorn, 37, an Israeli Canadian's executive vice president. "Cash incentives are the things that draw attention to Israel. It's more a conviction of wanting to live in a Jewish homeland, of making your children a Jewish citizen, of being a Jew in your own country," he says. "As opposed to, 'Will I get a break on buying a car?'" But he questions the Iranian Jewish community's view of the offer.

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The thorn in Putin's side digs in more

BY JORDAN THORN • When Boris Yeltsin revealed last week that U.S. intelligence forces had failed an assassination attempt against him in London, some observers saw it as another example of a Russian official's failure to protect the president. But the Russian intelligence community is not so sure. The Russian intelligence community is not so sure.

Yeltsin's account, confirmed by Scott Wolf, came to light in a report that the Russian intelligence community is not so sure. The Russian intelligence community is not so sure.

The dispute has seen a country equal a handful of the other's diplomats, and two sides are so high that two NATO fighter jets scrambled last week to intercept a pair of Russian bombers that seemed bound for U.K. airspace—though Moscow later claimed they were on a training flight.

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BEREZOVSKY offered to stand trial, if Lugovskaya does too

THE MARATHON MAN

John Stanton takes the Running Room on an uphill climb in the U.S.

BY JASON REED "The once-and-future president of the Running Bear is about 30 minutes away from the summit of Vancouver's Stanley Park when he makes a startling announcement. John Sankman, the man who has come to epitomize healthy living and active-life styles, links his success to the world-famous fair-food chain. "McDonalds' success," he says. Sankman is not approving of some of the grosser items on McFlay's menu, Sankman adds, but no-one can beat them on price and standardization. Now, as the Running Bear runs out of room to grow in this country, Sankman must turn his back to the supposed market of the United States, where so many Canadian outlets before him have been chewed and spit out.

If the secret to McDonald's domination was an additive (French fry), at the Bawing Roovin' to the 10 and 5, Strasser, 35, didn't invent the technique of mowing in 18 rows. He, instead, breaks up a one-minute walk, but he lags behind it in the hundreds of thousands of race runners who have participated in the sport's races. As such, he took running out of the exclusive realm of the herd (one athlete and brought it to the plump runners. Runners of all stripes turn up at his races several times a week for group runs, and in herculean acts on the art of breathing and moving their spines. They look out of cash for shoes, apparel, and a wind-breaking, even of gadgets. From heart rate monitors to GPS enabled watches.

The model has made Runway Room one of Canada's fastest growing homeprint retailers. "They've found a niche where our west runners are concerned," says John Williams, a retail analyst in Toronto.

It's compelling to think a 17-year-old's success as a sprinter, but it has all the elements of a rags-to-riches. In the early 1980s, Stanton was a vice-president for a seasonal grocery chain. When his youngest son, Jason, wanted to cross a three-kilometer fun run, he asked his father to go along with him. Sawson weighed close to 250 lb. at the time and was a heavy smoker, but figured it would be a cinch. Glad in his off years, leather shoes and Mack shoes, he made it to the end, but barely. Stanton started running twice a day.

quit smoking, and before long shed 60 lb. The headmaster in turn suggested an opportunity. There was very little in the way of running gear available, so he opened the first Running Room in 1964, in a room of his Edmore home, selling shirts and providing advice to new runners.

The company now operates 20 stores.

But while all those things have made Rusty's success in Canada, Sturtevant warns the market up here is mostly saturated. The company has made a push into the U.S. in and around Minneapolis, but growth there has been slow. The mammoth U.S. market has been a graveyard of sorts for a long line of Canadian retailers who were bigger and better funded than Sturtevant. Think Canadian Tire, Le Sema and Le Club. "Canadian retailers have grossly underestimated the competitiveness of the latter two retailers," says *BusinessWeek's* American

to make as much as \$13.5 million at home.



WHEN HIS SON GOT HIM TO ENTER
A FUN RUN IN THE '80S, STANTON
WEIGHED 240 LB. AND SMOKED

merely an audit, nearly double that of 2003. All told, the chart tops out between \$79 million and \$100 million a year, on a min. No exact financial numbers are available there, because not so many of the Canadian owners, Stenton has observed, the much smaller Interad he owns the company outright with his two sons John and Jason, who split days to-day management duties. That's the lack, such focused partners will be held the best, in his own words. His face is planted on professional materials. He's on the road up to 160 days a year visiting stores and showing up in thousands across the country to pump a business. He's some subtle connoisseur.

also no transport time reduction

Santitas is clearly aware of the dangers and has had into Karming Roedel formalized a greatly uphill climb in the U.S. market. For one thing, Canadian summers seem to enjoy the camaraderie of group runs, which helps transform them into rousers customers. And since we are more apt to drink up than (to) and try to ougarn each other.

Still, he's not ready to give up on it just yet. Almost weekly, Starnes says, bankers offer to take Rumpke's loans public to crush up his expansion plans, or to buy him out quietly (but the owner vows to stick to his steady pace). "The danger in going public," he says, "is you'll lose that culture that made you successful in the first place." Especially when you've got a culture that messages the many-the-principles-of-husling-burgers-and-sellin'-shoes-to-foreign-franks. ■



NEARLY 200 people were killed when Airbus A320 crashed in São Paulo last year.

When nobody's at the controls

The recent crash only highlights the chaos of Brazil's airline industry

BY ISABEL VINCENT • A few days after TAM Airlines Airbus 320 touched down at outside São Paulo's Congonhas airport, it stalled into a grassy field, igniting the worst airline disaster in Brazil's history. Two flights between the city of São Paulo and the United States were turned back. Apparently, a radar system monitoring Brazilian airports had temporarily shut down.

The long delays caused by the shadow may have been a minor concern compared to the crash, which took the lives of near 200 people, but they're indicative of the decision that has plagued the country's aviation sector since last September, when a Brazilian commercial airliner crashed into a swampy area over the Amazon rainforest, killing 154

Since then, the Brazilian aviation sector, whose infrastructure is still largely controlled by the military, seems to be falling apart at the seams. More glaringly, the country's air traffic controllers, who were blamed for the September disaster, have gone on strike to protest the government's imposing mishandling of the investigation into the crash.

The situation has created long lines and frustration provoked rioting at airports across the country from airlines and passengers whose flights have been delayed or cancelled. The effort to derive a solution to the problem of chronically understaffed and undermanned air traffic controllers is a logistical nightmare in a country where there are more than 10 government-owned airports.

"How many people will be killed before the Brazilian government stops the [air force's] live experiments on the traveling public's safety?" said Marc Basoregorty.

'HOW MANY MORE PEOPLE WILL BE KILLED?' CRITICS WANT MORE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY.

the president of the International Federation of Air Traffic Controllers in Montreal. In a strongly worded statement to the press following the crash in Sao Paulo, Baumgartner accused the Brazilian government of "chasing scapegoats" among the Brazilian air traffic controllers instead of "re-organizing the necessary safety oversight and risk assessment to prevent Brazilian aviation from falling into deeper chaos."

In a televised speech last week, Brazilian president Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva promised to get tough on safety and build a new air

port in São Paulo to ease congestion. "Our aviation system, in spite of the investments we have made in the expansion and modernization of almost all Brazilian airports, is passing through difficulties," he said. He announced several measures, including subsidies on charter, cargo and executive flights to Congonhas, to ease the pressure.

Although the investigation has just begun, aviation experts say that the Airbus A320 crashed at Congonhas, the country's busiest airport, was too large for the airport's short runways. Last February, a federal judge prohibited the landing of several types of aircraft at the airport, including Fokker 100, Boeing 737-400 and Boeing 767-300.

Despite these safety concerns, there has continued to be tremendous pressure from commercial and political interest groups to allow large aircraft to land in the airport, consistently located in the city's centre, and the temporary ban was eventually overturned. Even pilots who had expressed complaints in the past felt they had no choice but to land because of the circumstances.

"The pilot has to go. It's his job," said Carlos Gilberdo Salvador Camacho, director of flight security for the National Union of Pilots, to a São Paulo newspaper last week. "There is subliminal pressure from the commercial airlines that if you don't land there you are somehow hurting the companies that rely on their revenues from the passengers."

AMIDST the country, the government's anti-secure demagoguing that more be done to remedy a chaotic situation. "We're exploded at Casa Pousada as we put the TAM jet and its almost 2000 victims, but the credibility of the Brazilian sponsored civil mission," said Oscar Lima, the national president of the Order of Brazilian Lawyers in a written press statement after the Campinas crash. "Ten months ago, the country felt the impact of the worst disaster in its history of civil aviation, an episode which left the veil off the chaos in the industry, and we completely

**TO MORE
BILITY.** So it's safe to fly in Brazil? The experts say it is. After all, this is a country with a parenting legacy of air travel. Brazil is the birthplace of Alberto Santos-Dumont, a pioneer of civil aviation whose contributions to air travel in the early 20th century is believed to be so important as that of the Wright brothers in the United States. "We're dealing with a country with a tremendous aviation legacy," says Michael Egan, an aviation consultant based in Evergreen, Colo. "And it's not like to say that order and discipline are going to come out of this disaster, but we're dealing with governments who want for this kind of thing to blow over." ■

THE BACK PAGES

film

Anna Shirley: two prequels
R 100

books

A killer ending for Harry
R 99

taste

Japan meets street meat
R 99

music

Dean Martin, essence of cool
R 99

lame

Benefits of being a cunt
R 99

bazaar

Astronauts: men aging slowly
R 99



film

Adrian Ruscch had n't given much thought to walrus. Not until an instant warned him one of these blubbery mammals could "grab hold of you and suck your brains out." It was 1992. Ruscch, an underwater photographer from Los Angeles, and his new bride, Toronto writer Sarah Robertson, had come to the Arctic to film whales. He was diving in the frigid waters of Admiralty Inlet, northeast of Baffin Island, when the bears urged him to get out of the water if he didn't want to become walrus prey. Walrus usually dive on land, and dig thousands from their shells in a single feeding. But Ruscch was in deep water, with no clean beds, and the walrus in that neighborhood preyed on seals, he says. "They hold there, knock their heads off, and suck the flesh right out of their heads. The bear told me, 'This could happen to you.' That was the first monster story we heard when we went north. And that's what motivated our attention for walrus."

This couple, now based in Victoria, has since spent much of the past 15 years filming walrus and polar bears in the Far North. And they've whittled 800 hours of footage into a movie called *Arctic Tale*. But don't expect to see any seal-sucking gore or polar bear brutality. Ruscch, 45, and Robertson, 41, who co-directed the film, were waiting for an Arctic answer to *March of the Penguins*. With backing from National Geographic, which produced *Penguins*, and Hollywood's Paramount Classics, which distributed *An Inconvenient Truth*, they have conceived a \$10-million piece of family entertainment. *Arctic Tale* is a cozy coming-of-age story that follows a polar bear cub, Nana, and a walrus pup, Seta, from birth to adulthood in a "fashionable" duo's meeting as a perilous race—a global (bear) warning tale.

Like *March of the Penguins*, the story is drawn loose by an African American storyteller, in this case Queen Latifah rather than Morgan Freeman. But it nuzzles *Penguins'* formula into fictional waters.

Every scene in *Arctic Tale* is composed of documentary footage. So a naïve viewer, or even a jaded film critic, might be forgiven for believing that the movie's main characters, Nana and Seta, actually exist—that the film makers somehow tracked these same two animals over the years. That's what the film suggests. But when asked how they did that, Ruscch responds with the ungainly art of a musician forced to explain, on the spot, how the rabbit got into the hat.

"These are composite characters," he says, during an interview with Robertson on a Toronto patio in the sunny-ungloved heat of summer afternoon. "We're being very open."

ON THIN ICE

A new film about a polar bear and a walrus facing global warming trends a slippery line between fact and fantasy
BY BRIAN D. JOHNSON



THE POLAR bear's star, but the film makers found the walrus more interesting

about that." The characters, he will elaborate, "are narrative constructs inspired by everything we've seen and learned."

So is the movie documentary or fiction? "It's a hybrid," she says. "We're calling it a wildlife adventure."

"We're blurring the lines," adds Ruscch. "We're obviously trying to make a large-scale epic and be emotional. We're not afraid of having the walrus cry!"

By taking a poetic license that would make Michael Moore blush, the filmmakers realize

they are breaking a documentary taboo: "In a documentary context," Ruscch acknowledges, "you do not anthropomorphize. But we're not worried about that, because the feelings and images—we didn't make them up like in an animated film. That's exactly what we documented. These are the very best qualities of polar bears and walrus that we've seen." Picking up where *March of the Penguins* left off, he adds, "We wanted to push that genre farther with what science story backed by real observations and backed by science when we could."

Between a land's narrative, which asserts a polar bear family with the luxury of animals of *Leave It to Beaver*, and a soundtrack that choreographs walrus acrobatics to Britney Spears, the film certainly appears to ascribe our human traits to animal behavior. "But there's not as much anthropomorphism in the course of people think," says Ruscch. Pointing to the tight-knit family bonds in walrus herds, Ruscch cites a scene in which a walrus dabbles. Anne asks her life to save a young calf from a polar bear. "People are impressed that walrus have families and names, and have this incredible devotion. The fabulous qualities of these animals remind us of ourselves. But we're so disconnected from the natural world, that idea seems proportionate to us."

To find a precedent for *Arctic Tale*, the film makers point to the Disney wildlife adventure movies of the 1950s. The key difference is that Disney would use a documentary track to shoot the footage, which would be edited

film into a story by another team, back at the studio. In this case, the filmmakers built the story from their own experience in the field. But the studio sourced some influence. "The idea of having songs come from Hollywood," says Robertson. "Some were written for the piece, but Paramount said, 'What about bringing in some familiar songs that people can attach to?' It's not really dumpling it down, but it

The filmmakers whittled 850 hours of documentary footage into the film *Arctic Tale*.

polar bear is coming out in a more natural way." No kidding. It's as if the walrus is the character actor, and the polar bear is the star, and it's the one that ended up on the poster but the filmmakers have always found the walrus more interesting.

"Nothing was known about it," says Roberson, "and very few people had ever documented *Steller's*." When she and Raworth first started filming walrus 15 years ago, they worked with local Inuit hunters, and inserted footage into the film *Arctic Tale*.

head. They have these thick, hard skulls. Another diver was shaken like a rag doll, but we got the boat over and picked him up."

There was a close crook with a police bear. The crew came across the animal lying down, to us in front of their unavailability. "We warmed off the engine," Kovach knew. The pair was strapped underneath. My guide, walking through the engine. The bear was reaching in to him, and he just didn't feel right. They the bear stood up and came at him. In three pounces, he was on top of him. I was busy trying to get the pair. The bear was big, 300 lbs. The bear grabbed his leg and he started screaming. I finally got the pair out. Then the bear looked at me and just ran for an apparent reason. We took the man's pants off to see if the bear was injured and there were just scratches. We didn't know that we've never had anybody injured from an attack and we've never had to heat a bear."

Research and Ilaberman are environmentalists, and their film, like *An Inconvenient Truth*, ends with household tips for combating global warming. But their positions are not extreme. They don't oppose suburban housing, as long as the species is not endangered, and they've learned a lot from the forest. "But they go out to leave the animals alone, not put them in a zoo," says Ilaberman. "They don't put them in a zoo." "Unbelievable, they don't spend hours and hours with them. So it was a learning process for them, too. They were drawing on stories from the elders, who knew the animals better."

Incidentally, the filmmakers learned one trick of the trade on their drive by watching CBC's *50 Years of the March* on a closed circuit station in the Arctic. Filmed by Robert J. Flaherty in 1961, *March* is regarded as the first feature-length ethnological documentary. It includes a scene of a hunter lying on the ice, coughing up a snot by inserting the animal. When Flaherty described the technique to a contemporary critic, the man laughed and said a wolf would never do. So Flaherty decided to go as it was. "I crawled all the way up to his snot," he says. "It took me an hour. I grabbed it and pulled it away from the wolf's edge." The Inuit wanted to eat it, and he said, "No, this is my job." Though it's Flaherty himself, not the wolf, doing the job in the scene where he could find a underwear. And I described this from TV, the ultimate collage of the north.

A pioneering documentary, *Nanook of the North* took some poetic license of its own. The shots were set up. The action was scripted. And its starred hero was cast for the role: acting with women and children who were not his own. Like *Nanuk*, the polar bear cub in *Arctic Tale*, *Nanook* was a fictional character. Almost nine decades later, some top-of-the-line filmmakers are still trying to project a mythical hero onto an white expanse. ■



THE TRUTH ABOUT AVOCLEA: Two projects set out to fill America's dairy grain-fresh fields. One is funded by Montgomery's test, one isn't

Will the real Anne please stand up?

In celebration of the 100th anniversary of 'Anne of Green Gables': duelling prequels

BY KATIE ENGELHART • Cherie Farinole says she could "never marry a man who doesn't love Anne of Green Gables." Strong words, perhaps, but the 31-year-old student from Wichita, Kan., grew up on the books and has seen the 1985 *Anne of Green Gables* movie more than 200 times. For her, as for thousands of others around the world, Anne Shirley was an enduring role model.

Over the years, L. M. Montgomery's audi-
ocean railroad has inspired eight novels, three
TV series (including *Anne of Green Gables*;
The Secret and The Contrasting Story), the
popular CBC television series *Road to Avon-
lea*, and Canada's longest-running musical
She's earned the patronage of the Japanese
monarchy, and is responsible for a sizable
portion of P.E.I.'s tourist industry.

Next year, Montgomery's beloved character will celebrate her 100th birthday. To commemorate the anniversary, Penguin Group has commissioned a project called *Eighty-Seven Gables*, to be written by Canadian children's-book author Eudora Wilson, with the full support of Montgomery's estate. The 79-year-old writer says she intends to be faithful to the original text and assures fans that she "did quite a bit of research" to guarantee consistency.

But now, Bergson's project is facing more tough competition from producer Kevin Sullivan, the maverick behind the original movie-franchise. Sullivan recently announced a cross-Canada talent search for a new Anne Shirley to star in a project of his own design.

legal matters, Sullivan explains that a "perpetual agreement" allows him to operate autonomously from the Anne of Green Gables Licensing Authority.

More ironic for Montgomery than, though, is Sullivan's liberal interpretation of the Anne story. His production company advertises a prequel that will chronicle Anne's pre-orphanship. But wait! Didn't Montgomery herself tell us that Anne was orphaned just after her 11th birthday to face a decade of abuse and neglect? "This depends on whether you believe that or not," Sullivan says. "The path I've chosen denotes slightly from Montgomery. It acknowledges the fact that Anne says she was born an orphan, but then misleads the audience as to *how* she was born."

Of course this wouldn't be the first time that Sullivan's films have taken creative license with芒罗's books. Anne's fictional town of Arcadia has become something of a literary byword. And, for devotees like Carleton University student Jessica Poulos, Sullivan's films are also to "blame" for "the third film," she says, "there was nothing even there remotely related to the books." For example, in the novels, a middle-aged Anne resolutely stays out the First World War on the home front. But in Sullivan's third film, a childlike Anne goes undercover behind enemy lines. Critics found that the audi-

By his own calculations, Sullivan's idea for a sequel was born months after *Purple Hearts* was published. He claims he didn't know about Wilson's book until recently. Despite the controversy, Sullivan reminds fans that his films are meant to educate the public on the events of the war, not to glorify them. And indeed, he has created a format for his Green Cabinets franchise, making him an authority in his own right. The year after his first film aired, for example, *Warner Bros.* increased by 30 per cent in Japan, his *War of Green Cabinets* has run for more than five years, outlasting U.S. blockbusters.

Clear to those, the success of Sullivan's project will ultimately depend on the degree to which fans invest in authenticity. If *AmCord* is any indication, the film series might be as trouble. On July 23, fans will gather in the Toronto Convention Centre to dress up, engage in traditional games and play acting cast members on every detail of the television series. These veterans, some of whom would put the average *Twilight* to shame, will be Sullivan's final judges.

In the meantime, fans like J. P. Fischbach from Eugene, who wrote a university thesis on *Minority*'s work, remain decidedly unimpressed. "I hate what Kevin Sullivan does to her movies, he removes the characters and whitewashes them," Fischbach growls in a huff. "Too Kevin Sullivan credentialed." ■

WE'RE STALKING... KYLIE MINOGUE

The London-based chanteuse broke up last winter with French actor Olivier Martinez, who lives in Paris, but she didn't break up with his dog, a Rhodesian ridgeback named Sherbie. Hologram frequently boards a Eurostar rail train to the French capital just to have lunch there and take Sherbie for a walk. Walker seemed to have worked wonders: this week the couple hinted they may be giving their relationship a second chance.



FANS GIG in to Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: The series managed to stay within the shelf-life of its format and still breakbox

Curse of the Recurring Character

Will J.K. Rowling be able to resist bringing Harry, Hermione and Ron together again?

BY MARK STEIN

And then I woke up and it was all a dream. Whoops, sorry, I've given away my killer ending. It's the stuff of dream at I always have trouble with. But, like the song says, it's Not How You Start (It's How You Finish). And, like a lot of songwriters say, it helps to know how you're going to finish before you get working on the beginning and the middle. Cole Porter always liked to have an ending in mind and then write up to it. A lot of play writers do the same. Film-makers? Well, the movie that defines the spirit of Hollywood is *Keyhole*. *Gaslight*, wasn't exactly made up on the fly, but it's well known that, visually at least, they did the final scene, nobody knew whether this would wind up with Rick and Victor. Had they given it a "happy" ending, I doubt we'd pay much heed today. But, likewise, even *The Graduate* manages to conclude in a manner as less serious as *Requiem for a Dream* but still barbed like her. Finally in the death and escaped and, of course, the director Mike Nichols was banking on his screen to keep laughing exuberantly at what they'd gotten away with—and they did, and, through sheer exhaustion, their fake yuks died and their faces collapsed. And, after seven long, Nichols decided to end not on the big laugh but on the almost rag that earned a happy ending into a nervous one.

And what of the novelists? J.K. Rowling has just pulled off a remarkable feat: she has created a seven-part series more or less on schedule and nearly as successful as *Star Wars* in 1977 to that gray space in Scotland where she was unemployed and writing it on napkins or whatever (for some reason, I always doze off during J.K. Rowling profiles). I won't

give the ending away—Harry has a smoochage and a kiss with Snape—but I was struck by the final sentence of *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*. It's three words, three very ordinary run-of-the-mill words, yet it expresses the contentment and satisfaction of a journey completed.

Do you know how rare it is for an author to take a break for character to the end of the ride exactly as conceived? Mr. Rowling begins *The Deathly Hallows* with some lines of Asyndeton:

"On the morning before the next, the breaking of the curse, and the arrival that has been the, the inheritance of a new world, the end, the end of the world as we know it."

—which is pretty much how novelists feel about their long-running characters by the stage of the game. Most "series" are accidental. I. Frank Baum wrote the original *Wizard of Oz* and it was such a hit he was prompted again to write more—and more. In the first half of the 20th century, Baum came up with many lively characters. Take the Machine Man, the Irony story's first robot, the Highly Magnified Woggle Bug, who endlessly irritates his companions with his labored pace, the Gump, half-brain, half-flying, and the Princess Langlois, who

has 16 detachable heads she likes to appear in and so on to make Dorothy's life rich. And every once in a while he hit on a metaphorical or poetic worthy idea economic cast: there's a wonderful scene in the third book, *Cats in Hats*, in which Princess Ozma, the Sorcerer, the Tin Woodman, the Cowardly Lion, the Hungry Tiger, the Saw Horse and the center officer heavy Royal Army, meet the poor-outrage from the Land of Oz to the Land of Oz.

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FINALLY, A BOOK ABOUT... SHAKESPEARE'S SHIRT

In *Shakespeare's Shirts*, Pauline Kerman examines his propensity to take the garment with visual imagery. Her poems were part of the seed of landscape in visual imagery, where, through government speech required on oblique and often-stylized cloth. Kerman's *Shakespeare's Shirts* are clear, but lack Shakespearean elegance. "The head of the stretched-out penis is my visible erection has taken from me the appearance of refined civility" (44). Mr. Like 10.



LAST PAGE: TONY RANGALL; MIDDLE: TONY RANGALL; RIGHT: TONY RANGALL



TONY RANGALL (right) in *Herzegovina* stays like the way Agatha Christie took her responsibility with her famous character

stay shape for your readers. The recurring *Harry Potter* and the *Deathly Hallows* is a while back with my little girl. I vaguely like L. M. Montgomery missed a trick: the season by too fast. All her school years in the first volume, she's at college in the second, and then on to marriage and kids, and, for all I know, grandkids. Anne's life is not channeled in that sense, and suffers because of it. Obviously, at a certain level, I'm telling rubbish: it's an all-time blockbuster. But the sequel? Not so much. And, if Miss Montgomery had followed the Rowling format, I think they might be.

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together, his dead his game was not a wig, younger supporting players did all the legs, and, through government speech required on oblique and often-stylized cloth. Kerman's *Shakespeare's Shirts* are clear, but lack Shakespearean elegance. "The head of the stretched-out penis is my visible erection has taken from me the appearance of refined civility" (44). Mr. Like 10.

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MACLEAN'S BESTSELLERS

COMPILED BY BRIAN BETHUNE

Fiction

1. **A THOUSAND SPLENDID DAYS** 100
2. **ON ENGLISH BEACH** 400
3. **THE YACHT POLICE** 500
4. **THE GUEST** 600
5. **THE CHILDREN OF HUMAN** 800
6. **THE GOOD HUSBAND** 900
7. **THE GOOD HUSBAND** 900
8. **THE GOOD HUSBAND** 900
9. **THE GOOD HUSBAND** 900
10. **THE GOOD HUSBAND** 900

Non-Fiction

1. **THE GOOD HUSBAND** 100
2. **THE GOOD HUSBAND** 100
3. **THE GOOD HUSBAND** 100
4. **THE GOOD HUSBAND** 100
5. **THE GOOD HUSBAND** 100
6. **THE GOOD HUSBAND** 100
7. **THE GOOD HUSBAND** 100
8. **THE GOOD HUSBAND** 100
9. **THE GOOD HUSBAND** 100
10. **THE GOOD HUSBAND** 100

LAST WEEK ENDED ON 100

**JAPA
DOG**



THE TERIMAYO and Droshi are the latest iterations of a "warped culture" prize that also has adorns popping up in family restaurants.

Extra wasabi, hold the seaweed

Noriki Tamura's Japa Dog is the biggest innovation to Canadian street meat in years

BY RANCI MACDONALD • A sprinkling of pubescent, paper-thin seaweed shavings, a generous splash of soybean sauce, and thick Japanese mayo garnish the 14- to 15-oz beef hot dog that's drawing rave reviews from a hungry horde of Vancouverites on lunch. They are wearing a sidewalk hot dog-styled little Japs Dog, perched at the intersection of Burrard and Smithe streets, in Vancouver's down town core.

Behind the spinning grill, World Tamers keep up with the crowd, directing well-staffed turkey dogs with pale brown orzo, mayonnaise, aniseed muce and a layer of crispy green english sprouts. Through the window he looks like a natural. But just two years ago Tamers was a Tokyo ad salesman listless leaving Japan behind never even seeing his dog-rover. But in 2005, he and his wife, Mika, both 34, disappeared for B.C. with dreams of opening a business food business. Tamers had always liked to cook, and his ad clients had included successful restaurants for which they dined to start with street eats.

Six years later Tarawa, who grew up on the island of Honiara, won his spot on the city's sidewalk. The City of Vancouver has 120 spots for sidewalk food vendors. Last year there were never open ones. When there's more than one application for a site, the winner is decided by lottery. Tarawa hoped to set up a kiosk stand, but was foiled by a civic bylaw limiting him to a bistro-style set of stools. He creates and re-cooks his dog

Before opening shop, Tamara spent three months apprenticeship as a traditional hat designer at Bernard and Robson, opposite the downtown HMV. There, he realized he needed a trademark to set him apart from the city's 100-odd sausage sellers. So he spent his spare

time cooking up Japanese hot dogs—and getting the results on a small but exuberant cross of french.

His 35 Cresto packs a motley patch. The brownish trunk is loaded with no-tech tech: layer of finely shored dallas cotton and green canvas, topped with waxed and soy wax. As the grained German sausage burns a trail down the gutter, the waxed delivers its unassuming look to the nose. Hands down, Jaga Dog marks the single biggest innovation to hit city street meat since Vancouver's road was earned hawking the Yea Furrow Veggie Dog a decade ago.

But to the worldly palate of a dyed-in-the wool Vancouverite, Japa Dog is hardly far out. "Why use ketchup when you can use wasabi mayo?" shrugs 19-year-old Kate Fisher, as the sushi-maniac black-on-topped Fernieygo, *Turner's* creative bewilderer Fisher, a student at the Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design, was raised in Victoria and Vancouver. She grew up on seaweed, soy sprouts and sushi, and as a Japa Dog regular.

The Teriyaki chicken rubbing on a just another iteration of the "manga" craze" saw mainstream across urban B.C. The East meets West culinary crossover known as *fusion* cooking arrived in Vancouver in the stylish kitchens of local pioneers like Lumière chef-owner Rick Fournier a decade

so ago, today, it's so ubiquitous there is no need to label or identify it, says chef Karen Remick of the Fish House in Stanley Park.

Vancouver's "merged cuisine" is a more accurate reflection of Asian and European dishes earlier times, says Jamie Mac, food editor for *Vancouver Magazine*. Many show the level of intimacy—which took root in the past three to four years—is unique to the Pacific north-west region. Sure, steak's become generic (steak is now on Canadian tables). But in Vancouver, it's eaten with far post-packaged meat beef and swishes at the gas station. It's not uncommon to spot Asian influences on the menu as of the most well-bred local franchise family restaurants. From salad a Japanese restaurant and submit to some Asian and that's it.

And this type of cultural borrowing is no longer just a one-way street. Consider the enormous fad coming out of the city's rapidly multiplying *teahouses*, *chansu* and *chuckyu* (Japanese style *yahei*), where young *Yamato* women and the night-walkers in Japanese low-slung tabbies, or even conventional Western ones, *Yamato*er's *chansu* are one of the big fads outside Japan. *Shiru* by Chappin's Café and the new *Hapa* *Isakaya* franchise in Kailasho effortlessly blend Western *hops* with *bucan*, *crispie* *spicy*, *fried* *beer*, *whipped* *parlour* *croquettes* and *garlic* *bread* with modern Asian *bar* food, meant to be shared among the table. Across town, at Gastone's *shooting* *bar* *Kinokuni* *Guz* with *Okonoma* they've even found *Japanese* *paella*.

TODAY'S SPECIAL...BACON ICE CREAM

Delaware's Udder Delight Ice Cream House is selling the popular brandied meat mixed in with ice cream. The flavour comes with a popular Nerf's Carolina pig-squishing sauce, which puts some customers off, likening the product to frozen barbecue feed. The shop's creator, Pete Skelton, professes delight at the stir, while offering "Bacon and butter fat," he says "What could be better? The stuff should come with CDS beefy sausages."



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SINATRA (right) could make the audience feel his pain, Martin (left) often didn't convey any emotion other than a painful good humor.

Why we love the slacker Rat Packer

A new album praises Dean Martin for the very qualities that once held back his career

BY JIMMY A. WEIDMAN • Yes, Demi Moore had a new album out. No, her dad's still alive. The scrawling co-conspirator, who died in 1994, is still a part of her. Moore's album, *Devoted*, in which various singers sold their voices to old recordings, You Don't Grieve, has to be an actual singer in participant, as long as you're willing to see the "new thing about" Demi. Kevin Spacey got two tracks on the album, co-writing for a song about his Martin's spirit, named it according to the Rat Pack's motto of a few years ago in starting to wear off, as the producers of *Devoted* (13 found out when the show office on air came on. But it's been replaced by Demi Moore's album). So, suddenly, all want to be a crooner who drives to each and every finger his lover.

It's not just the availability of the album that suggests there's a Dean Martin bonanza on. Martin's recording of *It's a Wonderful World*, a song that Bigger on TV might seem like the epitome of the California cool, became a crossover hit. Martin once owned a home, rumored to cost "Dean Martin Drive" last month, in honor of the 50th anniversary of his best-selling song (the question of what they'll do for the centenary *And Capricorn!* 2004 collection, *The Essential Dean Martin* scored chart-topping sales for two days at recycled catalog. Martin is so popular on today's mainstream that people who grew up in the '50s and '60s can't even remember him. Patrick Swayze, who played Martin in *Grease*, who handled the musical arrangements for *Forster Cowie*, says the artists can "simply imagine they're singing with Dean. With contemporary technology, it feels like we're

in the room anyway, so they just go for it.'

The money factor is that when the new-look celebs Martin (as the "King of Cool," *It's a Wonderful Life*) and the other cast members, all grinning hard for the very qualities that, in his own time, were seen as keeping him out of the front ranks as a singer or actor. Unlike *Wonderful* life's big comedy partner Jerry Lewis, Martin had a famously cool attitude to the art of acting and comedy. When he was first envisaged with the material he got, his performance could be described as sloppy. His singing was known for a lack of conviction until Frank Sinatra stepped into the microphone. But his grin, Martin at last did not copy any American except a sort of generic good humor. The new Martin, as a guy who had great talent but couldn't exploit it to the fullest, was narrated up on an episode of *The Sopranos* where Heiner dresses his antics. Does Martin in his own "Saw you, Doin' it" or does "the squeaked under your ribs"?

It was even thought that the reason Mar tin didn't show a lot of onscreen marriage was that he was building back. Jerry Lewis told film director Peter Bogdanovich (quoted in the book *Who the Hell Is He?*) that Martin's lack of effort came from his lack of confidence about his talent: "Dean could never ever sing and do it with a full heart because he wasn't clear about his worth. He didn't have self-esteem of true kind. So he would

laid the singing and he would never allow it
ever to get serious so that people would com-
pare him to anybody." Williams doesn't
necessarily agree, but he does say that Mar-
tin was less intense a singer than the one to
whom he's often compared. "I think you
could probably name any popular singer of
the period and they would be just as intense
than Frank Sinatra."

Partners in the very opposite of what most crackeracks convey. But that lack of engagement has caused a new generation to view Miami as just more speed than other cities. John McEwan, at grandmasterstatus.blogspot.com writes that he, and others, love Don Martin because "the guy didn't do nearly Never Not with anybody And most of us think that's cool. Because we don't want to be nearly either." Most entertainers crave the love of the audience, Don Martin didn't. In several he is cited as, and because of that, he became an ancestor of modern entertainers who portray themselves as too cool to care what you think.

Of course, when today's entertainers act like they don't care, it's just an act—here it might have been an act for Martin, too, just like he famously pretended to drink more than he really did. And there's like *Forever Cool* celebrating the idea that the public likes an entertainer who plays hard to get: the Rat Pack came any he ever, but slightly less per formers everywhere can still turn to Dean Martin for inspiration. **M**

INTERPOL...HAS SOMETHING TO SAY

*Believe that, you said bye / So call in the kid alright / Above, you can
miss me moments / Now won't let you go by / So call in the kids / Now
we should dance like two F-ing boys / Just spare me the suspense,
I've been saved and the power slips along the road / And the stars
are shining children you only want to know / Oh, right on / Lady rain / Oh
baby, I can't deny / I got a taste, a taste, a taste and it's time—
from Movement 10, their new album On Love to Animals*



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COUNTS ONE AND ALL: Dracula, Count von Bismarck, Gretchen van Bismarck shared only a name and tale, with his great-great-grandfather, Otto

Down for the count went Bismarck

Today, Dracula would be an A-list celeb, since a breath of scandal only adds to a count's allure

BY ROBERTA HILLER • What's in a name? Nothing, agreed Shakespeare and Count Dracula. Since a count is a man at a count. Not anyone. These days, a well-known name is billed gold, as open mine for a gossip-hungry press. In life, uber playboy Count Gottfried von Bismarck did little and achieved less. Still, he made the centre pages of the tabloids when he died.

Gossip columnist low-brow ruminates they simply thrives. In his day, Gottfried's greatest-grandfather, Count Otto, made his name in the courts of the earth. One boreside Europe like a volcano, fusing old and new Germany from a patchwork of duchies and principalities in a furnace of blood and war, and became a legend to his reward. How can a descendant rival that?

Young Gottfried could play the Prussian Junker when he chose, greeting women with a kiss on the hand and chiding men with a duck of his head. But old Otto would have reached for his horsewhip if he'd seen *The Really Horrific Pictures* alongside of Gottfried's life, the black lipstick and women's dresses, the filices thighs and leather chaps, the flaccid boy's homosexuality and lifelong pursuit of sensation and excess.

In the wilderness of his own life, Gottfried was something of an angel of death. One Oxford friend, fellow scoundrel Olivia Channing, died on his bed in 1936 after running heroin and alcohol. Thirty years later, another party girl, 58-year-old Anthony Carey, fell to his death from Gottfried's penthouse apartment during a gay orgy.

With even less than, Gottfried fulfilled every tabloid dream and every discretion in a perpetual flow of outrageous scandal. He also satisfied the red-hot love of black and

white by videotaping the morning gulf between him and his illustrious ancestor between the birth warrior and the screaming queen, between the "Iron Chancellors" and the man of straw. But what had he cared if they'd been called Robertson, Kowalski or 'ol' Only this name lent lustre to Gottfried's game.

The title, too. Debra ry began with royalty, nobility and aristocracy, and a pure state of English queen made "Victoria," one of the best-known place names in the world. The world still loves a land, but no ruler ga. "Gottfried" is the worst. Non-existent in the English aristocracy, it carries a dark whiff of the crime not the real thing. It evokes upturned mustaches and two-tone shoes, shadows of the master European smoothies who have supplanted and corrupted North American since the days of Henry James. The title of one man's name says it all: Count Dracula.

Today, Dracula would be an A-list artist, since a breath of scandal only adds to a tale's allure. Count von Bismarck was convicted of attempting to murder his septuagenary wife, Susan, and acquitted at a second trial. While gossip raged over Susan's comings and goings, his married teenage son at the count's black bag, von Bismarck moved to London and picked up his life. Can we ask how he did it? Karamazov his social position, that's it. Of course a title helps. Even if it's C'ter, a place the

holder among the aristocracy, derived from the Greek "aristos" meaning the best and "kratos" power. Looking at Bismarck and Bismarck, one question surfaces: if these are the best, what's the worst?

A hot contender for the title of Worst of the Best was the relic of one of England's most ancient noble houses, Anthony Ashley-Cooper, sixth earl of Shaftesbury. Like Gottfried, he married a character among his forebears, the first earl, a famously upstart judge and lord, high chancellor. In the shadow of towering ancestors and philanthropists, his own spirit consisted of bankrolling big dreams and betting for Britain. Betting, while much of France, the 40-year-old Shaftesbury became a patron of both the best modern and his country, but then married a cold girl his junior by 10 years.

The wife and her brother squandered the earl when he threatened to leave her for good. The wife's son, aged 27, then died of a heart attack, leaving his brother the inheritance of this clouded name.

The best names are those the owners make for themselves. The simpler the better: the tabloids adore the water nomenclature, the clasp of authority conveyed by hereditary titles like Prince and Medusa, even the Guinness Pot and Sting. Titled too can be newly named when neither tabloid nor aristocrat, but new names call the shots. The aristocratic titles of what Donald Ramsfield called "old Europe" may now be scarce. But no one high as Count Bismarck, Duke Ellington or Earl Hines. ■



PRINCE CHARMING: CALVIN REED

The U.K. media's media, Angel Reed, is said to be worn and Calvin's persona is getting out of hand. Angel's no stranger to wild own: Calvin's dad was the late hard-boiled soccer star, George Best. Calvin was wooing Lindsay Lohan, so Angel suggested a better girl: Courtney Love, who's named Buddha. Angel says Love would keep her boy out of trouble. Plus he's available: Calvin's dumped Lohan for being boring when she's sober. When she's sober.

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GET INSIDE WEEK AFTER WEEK

NATHANIEL WAI-KIT SHAIR

1985-2007

A software engineer with a strong Christian faith, he loved gadgets, robots and soaps

Nathaniel Wai Kit Shair was born in Calgary on March 23, 1985, a son following two daughters, Andrea and Lisa. Tony and Maria Shair, who run a photo developing shop, took great care in raising their first boy. Nathan, "God's gift," in Hebrew, as named their evangelical faith, and Wai-Kit—"ascending door of good deeds"—the couple's Chinese heritage and their hopes for their son. A happy baby, Nathan was spoiled in early life by a household of women. His aunt Delphine and grandmother Rose Chia lived with the family, filling the house with a measure of Cantonese and English.

Even as a toddler he was inquisitive. Nathan peppered Frances Wong, an uncle, with "questions I wouldn't expect at that young age," he says. How were clouds made, clouds and comets? It was Nathan's interest—and in particular his Androids, on years his senior—who were exposed to his role models. "I thought him really cute until the maternal grandfather, when he became the best of my assistants," laughs Andrea. But beyond standard reviews—Nathan was in Grade 1 when *Antennae* won Grade 7, and both he and they knew all the all-time bests were living, building Lego houses rather than crumpling Ghostbusters. Always steady in class, Nathan normally charmed his way with teachers.

Nathan excelled in math, though his stress, such when he was often compared, made better grades. Nathan's days were full: he received Royal Conservatory stringing on piano, eventually achieving Grade 8 level, studied math at Kootenay, and attended Chinese school each week. But computers and other games, all have nearly ordered in his bedroom, were his passion. He revelled on trips to Hong Kong in his gadgets, buying the latest cellphones and bagging, in Cantonese, for deals as he joshed with merchants. Software engineering was a natural fit when, after finishing high school and securing scholarships, he started at the University of Calgary.

Despite his aptitude for electronics, Nathan, with his spiffed hair and easy Cheater grin, had a talent for people. "Whoever you needed somebody to talk to—he was there," says Philip Chen, a junior high friend. "He was a really good listener." Michael Kent, who last year turned Nathan on to an up-and-coming at XI Technologies, natural Calgary IT firm, also read the text. "As a software developer, it's

pretty rare," he says. "Just by the nature of our job we tend to be introverted, kind of reserved." Nathan was different. "He would ask me, 'How are you doing?'—and he'd really be curious."

That attitude, friends say, came of his morning faith and a growing sense of purpose at the South Calgary Chinese Evangelical Free Church, where Nathan the congregation's computer system and, later, gave up his weekends to install a server. A sub-poison leader, he helped organize a sidewalk group for inspectors on Fridays and, on

Sundays, taught kids the Bible. To Nathan, the golden rule was no passive, motion-dancing around means performing some service for those in need. For years he wore a When-Will-Jesus-Do-I-appear question he took seriously. "The word to be a role model," says his friend Albert Lai, who recalled him in guiding to us through the mess of premarriage young Christians' confusion. "Throughout, he would also be very 'Jesus-like,'" says Pastor Allen Law. "If something was wrong, he'd let you know." He like Philip—a now church member—Nathan's faith paved his road to no friendship. "The didn't force it," he says.

Asia, where he hoped one day to minister, became increasingly important to Nathan. He watched Cantonese for movie times, drank bubble tea and followed Chinese soap operas—the long journey in which magicians keep several

stones into the air. Yet the Chinese pop on his iPod mix together with Chinese rock and he loved sushi and dim sum as well as his premier boxer and kung fu DVDs. And his love for living his mystic road rose by side with his love for the popular evangelical Left Behind series of novels. Not were computers and Christianity alien to each other. Proud of missionary work he did in southern Alberta Post-Nathan as a server, software development led to a similar promise—that of helping others. That year, his last at U of C, he was to begin a diploma robot-building project.

That month, Nathan's bosses at XI Technologies, where he developed a crucial software, offered him a job upon graduation. Nathan accepted. But on July 12, at the company's team picnic party, Nathan was struck with a swimming robot house that opened a mechanical cuff for leaving. Late in the day, a spring-loaded mesh screen snapped back, striking him in the head. Nathan died July 13 at age 22.

BY NICHOLAN KÖLLER



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